

THE WEATHER: PARIS: Wednesday, cloudy with rain. Temp. 60-70. LONDON: Wednesday, cloudy with showers. Temp. 60-70. CHANNEL: Moderate. ROME: Wednesday, cloudy. Temp. 60-70. FRANKFURT: Wednesday, cloudy. Temp. 60-70. NEW YORK: Wednesday, cloudy. Temp. 60-70.

ADDITIONAL WEATHER DATA—PAGE 22

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Energy Secretary James B. Edwards speaking in London. (United Press International)

Edwards Says Saudis Accept U.S. Stockpile

By Joseph Fletcher

International Herald Tribune
LONDON — As the Reagan administration fills the U.S. strategic oil reserve with imports from the soft world oil market, Saudi Arabia has dropped its opposition to the American oil stockpile designed as a buffer during emergencies. Energy Secretary James B. Edwards said Tuesday.

Mr. Edwards said Saudi Arabia's oil minister, Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, "did not press any vigorous opposition" to the oil reserve in a conversation between the two men Monday in London. Both were attending a meeting of officials and businessmen involved in energy policy.

The strategic reserve, which ultimately is to contain enough oil to replace U.S. imports for nearly six months, should be used in oil-sharing plans among the United States and its allies during a cutoff of supplies.

The stockpile is also intended to prevent temporary shortages from creating a panic and driving up prices, Mr. Edwards said at the meeting Monday.

Mr. Edwards said the administration was looking at ways of giving oil companies tax incentives to help them maintain oil stocks at comfortable levels. Reuters reported from London: "He said he did not expect privately held U.S. stocks to decline below what he regarded as adequate levels this winter, despite a stock drawdown under way because of high storage costs."

In the past, Saudi Arabia has contended that the U.S. policy was taking advantage of high Saudi oil production to driven oil into the strategic reserve. Some militant countries in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries regard the stockpile as a threat to their ability to raise prices in a supply crunch.

But Mr. Edwards said "it doesn't seem to be a real issue" with Sheikh Yamani.

Haig Ends Talks With Gromyko

No Progress Seen In N.Y. Meeting

By Don Oberdorfer
Washington Post Service

NEW YORK — Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. and Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko have completed the highest-level round of U.S.-Soviet talks of the Reagan administration with agreement on continuing their dialogue but apparently on very little else.

The five-hour session Monday night, like a four-hour meeting last Wednesday, was primarily a head-to-head meeting of the two ministers without advisers. When it was over, State Department spokesman Dean Fischer said the talks had been "frank, businesslike and serious," but he discouraged any suggestion that substantive progress had been made.

Sheikh Yamani, who had left the meeting earlier, could not be reached for comment, but he joked in a speech Monday about the U.S. stockpile as a bad investment at current high interest rates.

Pledged to Proceed

Earlier Saudi opposition to the U.S. plan, Arab sources said, was based on two factors: Unfortunate U.S. timing in entering a tight oil market to buy long-term supplies and U.S. insistence on getting explicit Saudi approval of the U.S. operation.

The Reagan administration has pledged itself to proceed with its plan for a 750-million barrel reserve, which would cost \$4 billion at current oil prices.

The administration's budget-cutting drive will not affect the program, Mr. Edwards said, although the pace might slacken in future years once the stockpile has reached a critical minimum size.

Outlining the American energy policy to 400 delegates at an oil and finance meeting sponsored by the International Herald Tribune and the U.S. specialist paper *The Oil Daily*, Mr. Edwards gave details of administration priorities, including the following:

• Rapid decontrol of natural gas prices. The administration has no intention of imposing a windfall profits tax or a tax on crude oil imports, he said.

• An end of the U.S. moratorium on reprocessing radioactive waste from nuclear power plants. Besides obtaining uranium in this way, he acknowledged when questioned, the U.S. may use some of the plutonium by-product for making nuclear arms, a decision resisted by previous administrations at an expense liable to foster nuclear weapons proliferation in other countries.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 8)



Nightstick-wielding policemen pushed back a crowd of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini supporters during a demonstration in New York after an officer was attacked and beaten to the ground. (United Press International)

Clergyman Is Slain, but Khomeini Says Assassinations 'Revive Islam'

From Agency Dispatches

BEIRUT — Another high Iranian clergyman was slain Tuesday and Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, leader of the revolutionary government, said the wave of assassinations will have made a substantial contribution, adding that there were still "a number of issues that divide us."

The possibility of U.S.-Soviet strategic arms limitations was discussed, Mr. Haig said, but he declined to speculate whether there might be formal SALT negotiations next year. He also indicated that he made clear to Mr. Gromyko during both meetings that Soviet intervention in Poland would have "profound and lasting consequences."

No Invitation

Mr. Gromyko is not being invited to the White House as he was under previous administrations during his annual United Nations visit. "He's thinking about such an omission, according to sources, partly to let Mr. Gromyko know that "business as usual" does not prevail in the Reagan government.

The tentative selection of the Geneva site also means that Mr. Haig is not being invited to Moscow. Thus, the perceptions that the two leaderships have of one another is limited, at the moment, to the unusually lengthy and secretive discussions between their foreign ministers here in these opening weeks of the UN General Assembly.

At the session Monday at the Soviet Mission to the UN, all but the final half-hour was a private session. (Continued on Page 2, Col. 8)

dent Abolhassan Bani-Sadr in June. Pars said that demonstrators surged through the streets of Mashhad demanding revenge.

Reacting to Mr. Hashemi-Nejad's death in a speech to clergymen broadcast by Tehran Radio, Ayatollah Khomeini said, "If their aim is to undermine Islam,

were executed in Tehran Monday night and Tehran Radio reported the deaths by firing squad of 53 Mujaheddin guerrillas in the southern city of Isfahan.

Summary executions since the ouster of Mr. Bani-Sadr in June now total 1,369.

Pars quoted Col. Shahabeddin Javadi, commander of the Iranian Army's Khorasan 7th Division, as saying the reported routing of the Iraqi 7th Division was completed on Sunday, when the two major highways to Abadan were re-opened.

Victory Speech

Col. Javadi made the claim in a victory speech he delivered at the town of Shadegan, 60 kilometers (37 miles) north of Abadan, where 1,500 Iraqi prisoners of war were paraded before the public, Pars said.

"Our common enemy is Israel," Col. Javadi was quoted as saying in an address to the Iraqi captives after the parade. "I hope that we can fight one day shoulder to shoulder, under the leadership of Imam Khomeini, to liberate Jerusalem."

Mr. Javardi denied a charge by the leader of the guerrillas, Massoud Rajavi, who lives in France, that children were being executed at Evin prison, saying the youngest so far was 17 and had been involved in opposition activities.

"Of course even a 9-year-old can be executed if it was proved to the court that he or she is grown enough," Mr. Javardi said when asked of reports that girls that young had been shot. "But such a case has not happened yet."

He said in a telephone interview that 60 other dissidents were executed in the hours after street battles between Mujaheddin guerrillas and Revolutionary Guards Sunday.

An official at Evin prison said Tuesday that another 43 dissidents

Reagan Bars Illegal Caribbean Aliens

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Reagan ordered the Coast Guard Tuesday to halt the flow of illegal aliens from Haiti and other Caribbean countries into the United States.

"The entry of undocumented aliens from the high seas is hereby suspended and shall be prevented by the interdiction of certain ves-

sels carrying such aliens," Mr. Reagan said. He said the entry of illegal aliens is "a serious national problem detrimental to the interests of the United States."

"A particularly difficult aspect of the problem," he added, "is the continuing illegal migration by sea of large numbers of undocumented aliens into the southeastern United States."

Thus, the United States enters these talks convinced of the need to modernize NATO's arsenal, but with a commitment to talk, while the Russians' priority is to stop the program before the first new U.S. missile is installed.

There are huge obstacles to agreement on what missiles are to be limited, and even very little agreement about what is to be discussed.

For example, Reagan administration officials say they want the initial negotiations limited to the SS-20 and about 350 older SS-4 and SS-5 Soviet intermediate-range missiles and, on the U.S. side, the Pershing-2 and Cruise missiles. All these are land-based missiles.

Moscow's Position

The Russians have about 250 of the triple-warhead SS-20 missiles deployed, but about 75 of these are said to be based in the eastern Soviet Union, presumably aimed at China. Because the SS-20 can be moved easily by truck, Washington wants all SS-20s counted in the overall balance of forces targeted on Europe.

Washington has not decided, officials say,

how to deal in the talks with the newer Soviet SS-21, SS-22 and SS-23 missiles that may soon be deployed. These missiles have ranges of from 65 to 1,000 miles. Nor has it decided whether to

propose that Moscow's Backfire bomber, with a range of more than 4,300 miles, be included in the theater nuclear force talks or any resumption of SALT discussions.

Moscow's position is that the new NATO deployments are a fundamental effort by the West to tip the strategic balance, because the Pershing and Cruise can reach the Soviet Union while the Soviet weapons in the TNF talks cannot reach the United States.

Moscow has already made clear that it does not want the talks limited to land-based missiles.

It wants to include all U.S. "forward-based systems," meaning U.S. fighters and bombers based in Europe, Britain and aboard aircraft carriers, on the ground that some of them can

reach Soviet territory.

The United States, officials say, is still studying whether such planes would be included.

U.S. officials emphasize that in attempting to set equal initial ceilings on European-based arms, they are talking about missiles.

Further, if the negotiations ever get around to aircraft, the United States is prepared to argue that all Soviet aircraft that fly over Western Europe, including thousands based in Poland, East Germany and Czechoslovakia, should be included in the talks.

Walesa Chided; Strains Appear At Union Rally

By John Darnton

New York Times Service

GDAŃSK — Lech Walesa and other leaders of the Solidarity union were reprimanded by the union Tuesday for acting undemocratically in reaching a compromise with the government earlier this month over the issue of workers' self-management.

The tone of the reprimand was mild, and it was partly offset by another vote at the union's national congress that supported the actions of the leadership during the last year.

Nonetheless, the move pointed up growing dissatisfaction in the middle ranks of Solidarity and confirmed that Mr. Walesa, whose leadership is still above challenge, has offended some chapter leaders with his assertive style.

[Solidarity] Tuesday prepared a draft proposal assuring the Soviet Union that it intends to respect Europe's post-World War II balance of power, Reuters reported. The undertaking was written into a program scheduled for debate during the congress.

"Our national consciousness dictates that we respect the balance of forces formed after World War II in Europe and our country's place in that balance," the draft program said. "We want to carry out all changes in the country in a way that will not damage our alliances with the Soviet Union."

Unilateral Decisions

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Juan Carlos Testimony Sought in Coup Trial

By James Markham
International Herald Tribune

MADRID — Defense lawyers for some of the officers accused of plotting the failed military coup last February have called upon King Juan Carlos I to testify in their court-martial, claiming that the monarch was in favor of the attempted putsch.

In a clear political maneuver, nine lawyers this week submitted a joint legal declaration that asserts that Gen. Alfonso Aramada, one of the accused, communicated the king's wishes to the other plotters.

Gen. Aramada, a former tutor of the king and well known for his monarchist sentiments, proposed himself to lead an emergency government after rebel Civil Guards seized parliament and the nation's leading politicians on the evening of Feb. 23.

General's Lawyer

But the general's lawyer, Ramon Hermosilla, called the joint declaration "absolutely false," evidently concerned that most of the other 31 officers accused in the case are attempting to keep all blame on his client.

King Juan Carlos is effectively banned by the Spanish constitution from giving evidence in court. By demanding testimony from him and Queen Sofia, the defense lawyers evidently hope to sow lingering doubts that somehow the monarchs were abreast of the coup.

Reacting swiftly after Lt. Col. Antonio Tejero Molina led 288 Civil Guards into parliament, the king, who is commander of the armed forces, rallied other wavering generals and defused the coup. Detailed pretrial testimony, which has been leaked to the press, has disclosed among other things that on Feb. 23 Juan Carlos personally answered telephone calls from several foreign leaders who expressed their support for Spain's endan-

gered democracy.

The tactic of blaming Gen. Aramada, who was deputy chief of staff of the army, appears to reflect in part differences among the plotters that emerged after the Cortes was seized. Lt. Col. Tejero was deeply angered when Gen. Aramada informed him on Feb. 23 that civilian politicians, including Socialists and one Communist, would be included in the proposed emergency government. The rebel Civil Guard leader was in favor of a military junta.

In a separate declaration, Col. Tejero's lawyer maintains that on Jan. 18 Gen. Aramada informed some of the plotters of a conversation he had had with the king and queen "in the Pyrenees" in which Juan Carlos had purportedly expressed his lack of confidence in Adolfo Suarez, who resigned as premier two weeks later.

According to this account, Gen. Aramada told the assembled soldiers that the king had been considering a possible list of successors to Mr. Suarez, but had found none satisfactory. The king favored a civilian government, according to the Tejero statement, while the queen inclined to a "government of soldiers."

Gen. Aramada has denied meeting with Col. Tejero, and the posture he adopts in the court-martial will importantly affect the attempt of the other plotters to implicate the king. The tack of Gen. Aramada's defense seems so far to be that on Feb. 23 he simply attempted to avoid bloodshed in the Cortes seizure.

UN Human Rights Panel Decides Not to Place Iran on Its Blacklist

By Iain Guest
International Herald Tribune

GENEVA — Despite growing concern that the wave of executions in Iran violates a wide range of international human rights agreements that Tehran has signed, a major United Nations human rights body has declined to place Iran on what is, in effect, the United Nations' human rights blacklist.

The decision was made by the 26-member UN Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, which met here recently. It listed seven countries, including Venezuela and East Germany, but not Iran. Sources say that the subcommissioners from Pakistan and the Soviet Union may have played a key role in ensuring that Iran escaped censure.

Human rights activists here feel that the UN must begin to put pressure on Iran if its human rights machinery is to retain credibility. It has been criticized for being selective and slow to take action.

"Today's mass executions, after summary justice, are a major abuse of human rights. The UN simply cannot ignore it," said Hans Tholen, deputy director of the Geneva-based International Commission of Jurists, an independent agency which complained of killings and torture under the shah.

Subcommission resolutions called for the creation of a group on the rights of native peoples, a

high commissioner for human rights. They also criticized the regimes in El Salvador and Afghanistan, and deplored, in unusually strong language, the repression against Hindus in Iran.

But this repression is only one aspect of the current turmoil in Iran, where as many as 2,000 persons are estimated to have been executed. And the impact of the public resolution may be undermined by the fact that the subcommission passed up the chance to firmly condemn these wider rights abuses.

U.S. Was on Blacklist

The 26 subcommissioners are meant to be independent of their governments. Their main function is to draw up a list of countries charged, in the UN terminology, with "patterns of gross violations of human rights." This means abuses on such a scale and consistency that the government cannot possibly plead ignorance.

Each year the preliminary list is put together by five of the 26 subcommissioners from thousands of appeals submitted to the United Nations. This and other material is then reviewed by the full subcommission before being passed to the Human Rights Commission, the body which comprises 43 governments, including the United States and the Soviet Union. The process is ponderous, but it carries the full weight of UN disapproval.

In recent years, the subcommission has grown bolder, even putting the United States on the blacklist for the treatment of blacks in jail. This year it has only singled out seven countries: Afghanistan, East Germany, Argentina, Haiti, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela (for the unexplained death of 200 Colombian migrant workers last year).

Although Iran does not feature on the list, human rights pressure groups here have argued for some time that the Iranian government is, by the employment of tribunals, systematically violating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Geneva conventions.

On June 17, 1979, new regulations were adopted by the Iranian Revolutionary Council, tightening up the tribunals.

Pakistan's Role

But this left "giving omissions" according to a report by the International Commission of Jurists, no right to confer in private with lawyers before or during a trial, "inadequate time" allowed for preparing for a trial and, most seriously, no right of appeal. All, in the view of the jurists, violate the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which Iran signed in 1973.

Iran has promised the United Nations a new report on how it is applying the covenant and has not

demanded exemption from it on the grounds of the current turmoil or the war with Iraq — the sort of emergency that has caused Britain, for instance, to opt out of much of the covenant in Ulster.

Sources close to the subcommission suggest that the most likely reason why Iran escaped censure was political, and that the five-man working group that reviewed the communications effectively reduced to four by the absence of the Nigerian member, was heavily influenced by its member from Pakistan, Sharifuddin Paracha, who is minister of law and parliamentary affairs in his nation's government.

Pakistan is nearest to Iran in its devotion to Islam, and such punishment as cutting off the hands of thieves or stoning adulterers to death has already attracted the wrath of human rights activists.

Another influential member of the group is thought to have been Vasiliy Sofinsky of the Soviet Union, the former Soviet ambassador in New Zealand who was expelled last year for allegedly helping to finance New Zealand opposition parties.

Mr. Sofinsky is thought to have been thoroughly alarmed when East Germany was put on the blacklist last year for impeding freedom of movement, thus creating a possible precedent for appeals on behalf of Soviet dissidents.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

5 Hijackers Divert Indian Airliner to Pakistan

The Associated Press

LAHORE, Pakistan — A domestic Indian airliner with 117 persons aboard was hijacked to Lahore Tuesday by five Indians demanding knives and at least one hand grenade.

They demanded \$500,000 and the release of a jailed Sikh independence leader and his followers. Pakistani negotiators said the hijackers had set a 10 a.m. Wednesday deadline but had not made clear what would happen if their ultimatum was not met.

Sixty-eight hostages, including all 23 non-Indian passengers, were released after negotiations got under way in the airport lounge. A special Indian plane was scheduled to fly them to New Delhi via Amritsar later Tuesday, a Pakistani spokesman said.

London Times, Unions Reach Provisional Pact

United Press International

LONDON — Print union leaders reached a provisional agreement Tuesday night that will allow The Times of London and The Sunday Times to resume publication and ends the threat of their permanent closure, a union official said.

The talks had been described by publisher Rupert Murdoch as the "last chance for common sense to prevail." He threatened to a last chance "ultimatum" to close The Times and its sister publication permanently unless there was a quick settlement of a labor dispute at the 156-year-old newspaper.

Len Murray, secretary-general of the Trades Unions Congress, announced the provisional agreement. Picket lines that had forced cancellation of the daily Times editions will be lifted and printers will return to work Wednesday, Mr. Murray said.

Error, Not Protest, Closes U.S. Nuclear Plant

Washington Post Service

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. — The Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant here has halted its controversial start-up operation but not because of anything related to anti-nuclear protesters who have been laying siege to the site. It was more embarrassing than that.

A plant official discovered late Sunday that drawings used to lay certain crucial pipes in Unit One of the plant as safe from earthquakes actually were drawings of pipes in Unit Two. As a result, the start-up operation was halted on Monday. The error means the plant cannot operate until the Unit One pipes are checked and approved, which could take several weeks.

Earthquake resistance has been the major issue in the battle of Diablo Canyon, where more than 1,600 demonstrators have been arrested in the last two weeks. The plant is built over an old earthquake fault.

UN Report Assesses Israel's Nuclear Strength

United Press International

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. — Although acknowledging gaps in its information, a UN panel of experts reported Tuesday that Israel was capable of producing nuclear weapons and possessed means of delivering them to Middle East targets.

The panel, composed of two Americans, a Russian, a Canadian and a Lebanese, was appointed by Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim in 1978 to examine the "danger of the introduction of nuclear weapons in the Middle East." It concluded that Israel could have possessed nuclear weapons a decade ago, Israeli authorities have said publicly that the country is capable of producing atomic weapons "in a short time," but have denied that they now had the weapons.

In a report submitted by Mr. Waldheim Tuesday to the UN General Assembly, the experts said that on the basis of what is known about Israel's Dimona nuclear reactor, "the physical possibility exists" the Israeli might already have enough weapons-grade material for making several bombs comparable to the bomb dropped by the United States on Nagasaki in 1945.

Consulate's Attackers Give False Names in Paris

Associated Press

PARIS — France is preparing to try four pro-Armenian guerrillas who last week attacked the Turkish consulate in Paris but said who they really are, officials said Tuesday.

Justice sources said that when members of the group, who had attempted murder of the vice consul, the accused gave "false names and home towns and declined to appoint defense lawyers immediately."

The identities of the accused seemed likely to be scrutinized after defense lawyers have been appointed. The prisoners said this would be done later by pro-Armenian groups in Paris.

6,000 on Hunger Strike Protest Spanish Jails

Reuters

MADRID — Almost 6,000 inmates of Spanish jails were on hunger strike Tuesday in protest against prison conditions.

A Justice Department spokesman said prisoners in 23 jails from the Canary Islands to the northern Basque country had raised their demands for a reform of the penal code, an end to overpopulation and shorter waits for trials.

The strike, which began on Saturday in Barcelona's Model prison, now involved about a quarter of the country's prison population, a spokesman said.

The strike comes against a background of growing indignation at prison conditions. The number of prisoners has more than doubled since 1977, according to official figures, bringing the total to 5,000 inmates. The system was built to handle 3,000.

Authorities have acknowledged that the prisoners' demands are justified, but say the problems cannot be solved overnight.

Dutch Urge Leftist Role in El Salvador Talks

The Associated Press

THE HAGUE — The Dutch government has joined France and West Germany in saying the leftist front in El Salvador must be given a role in negotiating a peaceful return to democracy there.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Jan Willem Bertens told reporters that day: "We now recognize the front as one of the political forces in the dispute. This step is in accord with the French-Mexican statement."

Mr. Bertens said the Dutch wanted to prompt a dialogue between the representative forces to restore democracy and end the civil war in El Salvador. He underlined that the government still regards the junta as representative of part of the people but added, "We say the government should talk with the opposition to achieve a common solution with violence."

Soviet Couple Drive Into U.S. Moscow Embassy

United Press International

MOSCOW — A young Soviet couple and their two sons drove Tuesday night into the U.S. embassy here under cover of a thick fog. They left after talking to embassy officials. It was the second such incident in just over a month.

The couple, who appeared to be in their late 20s or early 30s, spent an hour and 45 minutes inside the embassy compound. U.S. officials did not immediately provide any details on the couple or say what they wanted.

The pair drove out the compound followed by a U.S. car. The couple behind was a Soviet vehicle with four steelyards guard in it. The couple were not spotted when they arrived because they came in the tail light of a large truck used for mail.

Dublin's 'Nonsectarian' Plan Stirring Debate

United Press International



Security forces saturated a district of West Belfast Tuesday after gunmen killed one part-time soldier of the Ulster Defense Regiment, a predominantly Protestant unit, and badly wounded another.

Britain's Labor Party Says It Favors Irish Reunification

The Associated Press

BRIGHTON, England — Britain's opposition Labor Party adopted a resolution Tuesday advocating the eventual reunification of Northern Ireland with the Irish Republic.

The measure on Northern Ireland was likely to alarm the one million Protestants in the province, who fiercely oppose being merged into a nation dominated by 3.5 million Catholics.

The policy was drawn up by Labor's National Executive last summer and marked a divergence in the traditional bipartisan approach to Northern Ireland by the Labor and Conservative parties.

Even if Parliament approved the law it would have to be submitted to a popular referendum, which observers said had little chance of passing.

Mr. FitzGerald, in calling for renunciation of Dublin's claim to the north, said he would not pursue his claim until he felt there was majority backing for it. Mr. Haughey's angry reaction to the proposal Monday indicated there was little chance of that.

Mr. Haughey's Fianna Fail Party has 80 seats in Parliament to 82 for Mr. FitzGerald's Fine Gael Party, with a handful of independents holding the balance of power.

One of the organizers, Alexander Paritsky, was arrested Aug. 28 and charged with anti-Soviet

slanders, which carries a maximum penalty of three years in prison and five of internal exile, she said.

Word of the arrest was passed to friends in Israel who spoke with Mr. Paritsky's wife, Polina, by telephone. She and others associated with the study group said that eight of Mr. Paritsky's acquaintances had been summoned for interrogation and warned that they would be imprisoned if they sent any letters of protest to the authorities.

In addition, Mrs. Paritsky told Dina Belfin, an emigre in Paris, that officials had told Kharov, a Jewish scientist, that a trial of "Zionist agents" was coming up soon.

Mental Illness Suggested

Soviet investigators have apparently suggested that Mr. Paritsky is mentally ill. One investigator is reported by Mr. Paritsky's wife to have cited an essay written for a Soviet school by one of his young daughters. In it she wrote that she had a real motherland and a step-motherland.

She depicted her real motherland as a sunny place far away that she had never seen, and where a language was spoken that she did not know. Her step-motherland, she said, has given her many nice things such as summer camp and songs, but is not nice because it will not let her go to her real motherland.

The investigator reportedly accused Mr. Paritsky of having written the essay or of having put his daughter up to it.

Mr. Paritsky, who has been refused an emigration visa, is in his early 40s and has worked as an electronics engineer in underwater acoustics, Mrs. Paritsky said. Underwater acoustics has applications in submarine detection, and is regarded as a sensitive research area in the Soviet Union.

5 Arrests in Kiev Reported

MOSCOW (UPI) — Five Jews who were at the Kiev train station en route to lay a wreath at the Babi Yar memorial to the victims of a Nazi massacre have been arrested, Jewish sources reported Monday.

Four of those arrested were sentenced to 15-day jail terms on charges of hooliganism, but the whereabouts of the fifth was unknown, the sources said.

Because of the stalemate on the central issue, the new talks are expected to deal with a politically less charged question, the two Afghan refugees now in Pakistan. The Pakistanis want assurances that the refugees will suffer no reprisals if they return home.

The monument erected in 1976 at the massacre site is dedicated to Soviet citizens and POW soldiers and officers of the Soviet Army, but 90 percent of those who were killed there in 1941 are believed to have been Jews.

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Poll Indicates Reagan Losing Some Support Because of Economy

By Adam Clymer
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — President Reagan's once solid grip on public support appears to be loosening somewhat because of worries about the economic situation, and his speech calling for more budget cuts last week did little or nothing to reverse the slide, a New York Times-CBS News Poll indicates.

The poll suggested that key opposition groups whose support has shifted the most were among those most pessimistic on key economic questions.

The poll also showed resistance to further budget cuts and unhappiness over Mr. Reagan's handling of Social Security. One-fourth of those interviewed said they would blame the president if the economy did not improve.

Forty-three percent said they approved of Mr. Reagan's handling of his job, while 33 percent disapproved, a level about the same as President Jimmy Carter held four years ago. This was down from 59 percent in the last Times-CBS poll in June.

Politics Disliked

The quarterly poll of 1,479 voting-age Americans found the strongest declines in support among population groups whose backing had seemed most tentative, such as Democrats, young people, the less educated and suburban residents. Mr. Reagan's supporters said they liked him more for personal qualities than for his policies, while his critics chiefly disliked his policies.

In the telephone survey, begun early last week and completed Sunday, his handling of foreign policy won the support of 32 percent of those polled, and his policy toward the Soviet Union was backed by 62 percent. While 20 percent of those interviewed called his foreign policy "too aggressive" and 10 percent said it was "too weak," 59 percent said it showed "the right level of firmness."

Only 20 percent said they supported the proposed sale of AWACS radar surveillance airplanes to Saudi Arabia. Thirty-seven percent were opposed to the sale, and 43 percent had no opinion.

The 5-percent income tax cut that is to take effect Thursday is not providing much of a lift for Mr. Reagan. A declining percentage of the public said they planned to save or invest, rather than spend, the extra dollars they would get from the tax cut, and there was a strong preference for giving it up rather than making major cuts in Social Security or the military budget.

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Hinckley Attorneys Indicate Insanity Defense Planned

By Laura A. Kiernan
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Lawyers for John W. Hinckley Jr., officially admitting that there is no dispute that their client shot President Reagan and three other people on March 30, say they will argue that the defendant was insane at the time and should not be held criminally responsible for his acts.

Mr. Hinckley's lawyers also asked Monday for separate trials and separate juries to consider the questions of Mr. Hinckley's actions and mental state if the government does not accept that defense contention.

Mr. Hinckley faces up to life in prison if convicted of all charges in a 13-count indictment.

U.S. Navy Jet Crashes

The Associated Press

MANILA — A U.S. Navy F-14 Tomcat crashed in the Arabian Sea while on a routine flight Tuesday after its two-man crew ejected safely, the Navy said.

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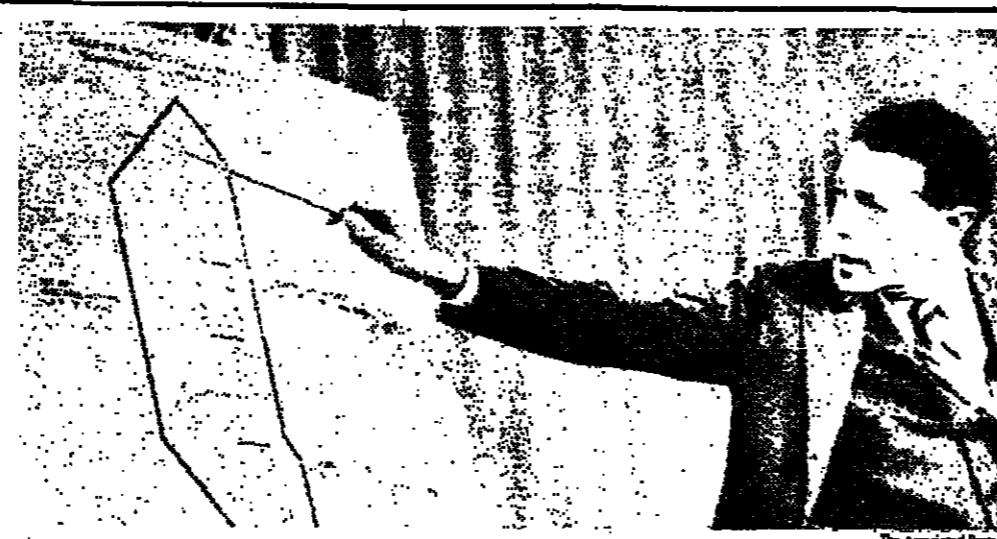
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U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger commented on a chart showing the size of a Soviet tank factory at a news conference Tuesday that was beamed to NATO headquarters in Brussels. The outline of the plant outline was superimposed on a map of Washington.

U.S. Promotes Book on Soviet Strength

The Associated Press

BRUSSELS — The U.S. Defense Department went to rare lengths Tuesday to publicize in Europe its glossy, illustration-packed new booklet on Soviet military strength.

The booklet, released in Washington at a news conference by Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger, has been under study by members of NATO's 15 national delegations for more than a week. More copies were handed out here on Tuesday.

In an unusual public relations operation, Mr. Weinberger's news conference at the Pentagon was relayed live by closed-circuit television to a

NATO auditorium filled with European journalists, broadcasters and military officials.

Before the broadcast, one of the authors of the book was on hand to give the audience background information on its contents. The official, who declined to be identified, also refused to say what previously secret material had been declassified in the book. The booklet was produced in response to a request by European defense ministers last March for evidence of Soviet strength.

The Soviet Union said Tuesday night that the U.S. booklet had been released to confuse, intimidate and misinform public opinion in the West. Reuters reported from Moscow.]

Another U.S. AWACS Problem: Air Force Cannot Find Enough Officers to Fly Them

By Bill Peterson
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — A new problem has crept up almost unnoticed in the gathering storm over the sale of AWACS radar planes to Saudi Arabia: There is a serious shortage of officers to man the planes the United States flies.

Air Force officers apparently do not find much satisfaction or reward in working on one of the most sophisticated surveillance aircraft in the world, according to congressional spokesmen. The crews find the hours long and the pay inadequate.

Besides, the typical AWACS officer spends 150 days a year away from home in places such as Iceland, South Korea and Saudi Arabia.

The shortage is particularly acute among experienced weapons controllers — the captains, majors and lieutenant colonels who oversee the high-priced electronic gear aboard the planes.

The Air Force is required to have 379isory personnel to man its 25 Airborne Warning and Control Systems planes, but can muster only 288, according to Sen. Barry Goldwater, Republican of Arizona, it is required to have 52 field officers (majors or above), but has only 12.

Few Volunteers

It has not had much luck finding volunteers, either. When the Air Force put out a call in 1980 for 78 mission commanders with the rank of major or higher, there were only 17 takers.

Special Problems

But the AWACS crews also have some special problems. One is the time that crew members, all stationed at Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma, have to spend away from home.

Hard feelings also result from pay differentials on each plane. Simply put, the officers in the front of the plane are paid more than those in the back. Pilots and navigators in the cockpit get \$206 a month in extra flight pay while controllers get \$110 in hazardous duty pay.

The House moved to correct that recently by adopting an amendment to the military pay bill. Under the amendment, captains, majors, lieutenant colonels and colonels with from six to 18 years' experience would get an extra

\$400 a month in hazardous duty pay. The bill is now before a conference committee.

Haig Open to AWACS Accord

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. said Tuesday that he would not "discount any possibility" for compromise on the sale of the AWACS radar planes to Saudi Arabia, while the Senate Republican leader suggested that "modification" might save the \$8.5-billion arms deal.

"I hope some way can be found to take the stress and tension out of the proposal, through modification," Sen. Howard H. Baker of Tennessee said.

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Bill on Telephone System May Expand Pentagon Role

By Merrill Brown
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Legislation nearing final Senate action would dramatically shift some of the government's power to regulate the nation's telephone system from the Federal Communications Commission to military agencies, according to industry and government sources.

Although the legislation, designed to deregulate the phone industry, would not give the Pentagon a role in setting long-distance rates, the Defense Department powers could have an indirect effect on the quality and cost of telephone service.

The legislation would allow the president, on a Defense Department recommendation, to require a communications company to provide any services, facilities or equipment "to promote the national defense and security or the emergency preparedness of the nation." No state of emergency would have to be declared. Under current law such powers are generally reserved for wartime.

For example, military officials are trying to use the legislation to resolve acknowledged management and technological problems that plague the nation's military and emergency communications network.

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The overall market level is still low and leading stocks appear cheap, reflecting the weak performance of the German stock market in 1979 and 1980 in comparison with major international markets.

First

The military involved in decisions affecting the civilian communications network.

There are significant provisions of the bill which are unduly favorable to the Department of Defense to the potential detriment of the ratepayers," said a policy-maker whose views were typical of those obtained from a dozen communications attorneys, lobbyists and U.S. officials. "It's like a hidden defense budget item. Clearly, there is too much of a shift of power to the Defense Department."

The legislation, a revision of the Communications Act of 1934, is designed to deregulate parts of the industry and free AT&T from legal constraints to compete in unregulated communications markets.

The bill, S. 838, was passed by the Senate Commerce Committee, 16 to 1, more than two months ago, with no debate on the defense sections. It may be considered on the Senate floor as soon as this week and has been expected to gain Senate approval.

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U.S. Environmental Agency Cuts Sought as Workload Rises Rapidly

By Philip Shabecoff
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Reagan administration is seeking to slash the staff size and operating budget of the Environmental Protection Agency by more than 30 percent during the next two fiscal years, putting in question its ability to carry out the tasks mandated by Congress, according to civil servants.

The cuts would come at a time when the agency's workload is increasing at a rapid rate because of programs enacted by Congress, including the new Superfund to clean up hazardous wastes across the country and the broad effort to protect human health from their toxic chemicals, including the cleanup of drinking water.

Byron Nelson, chief spokesman for the environmental agency, who is traveling in the West with EPA administrator Anne M. Gorsuch, was asked Monday about the reported budget and personnel cuts.

"We must emphasize that all of the figures are very preliminary," he said. "The administrator has not signed off on some of them or even seen some of them. He added that "there is still waste within this agency that can be eliminated without impeding progress toward the nation's environmental goals."

Morgan Kinghorn, comptroller of the EPA, stated that the agency had received a notice from the Office of Management and Budget that it was to make the additional 12-percent budget cuts called for by the president last week for the fiscal year starting Thursday. Mr. Kinghorn said he did not know how the cut would be applied or "what further cuts will occur beyond the proposed 12 percent."

Documents provided by officials within the agency indicate that the cutbacks in money and personnel will continue beyond the coming fiscal year. A "decision unit analysis" from Mrs. Gorsuch's office indicates that she is seeking to terminate 3,200 permanent full-time employees in the 1982 and 1983 fiscal years. That would be 30.8 percent of the 1981 agency strength of 10,381. The document also indicates that the agency expects to lose an additional 6 percent.

The controller shortage is blamed on several things. Part of it, according to Sen. Goldwater, is the old problem of keeping highly skilled people in the armed forces. As soon as they are trained, "the electronics people are waiting right outside the school building with their hands to grab them at one, two and three times the pay they would have received if they stayed in the service," Sen. Goldwater said recently on the Senate floor.

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What the World Bank Is For

The United States persists in treating the World Bank as though it were the competitor of the privately owned commercial banks. The Reagan administration seems to think of World Bank loans to the Third World as simple public subsidies — the international equivalent of welfare — while commercial bank loans represent the desirable discipline of private business. In fact, the genius of the World Bank has been its ability to collaborate with private lenders to supplement their resources, to enforce conditions on loans and to reduce the risks in international banking.

Political reality sharply limits the pressure that a commercial bank — particularly a U.S. bank — can bring to bear on the government of a Third World country with a delinquent loan. It's very easy for governments to raise a cry of imperialism and dollar diplomacy. It's harder for us to bring that kind of accusation against a World Bank delegation that might be made up of, say, two Indian economists and an Argentinian engineer. No loan to the World Bank has ever been defaulted. When the World Bank participates in a development project, it provides a real measure of reassurance to the commercial banks that are also participating. If the United States were to diminish its support for the World Bank, it would not only reduce developing countries' access to concessional — that is, subsidized — credit. It would reduce their access to commercial credit as well.

When Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. was at the United Nations last week, he spoke as though all but the poorest countries could turn to greater reliance on an indispensable institution.

countries, financial authorities have begun to caution the commercial banks about the heavy debts of the developing countries. A few days ago Henry Wallich of the Federal Reserve Board pointedly and publicly suggested that it is now necessary to slow down the expansion of those debts. Many Third World countries managed to maintain rapid economic growth through the turbulent 1970s by increasingly heavy dependence on bank credit. That pattern won't survive far into the 1980s. What can the World Bank do?

One possibility might be the World Bank's much-debated energy affiliate, and the United States is simply and flatly wrong to try to kill it. The official U.S. view assumes that it's a socialist scheme to displace private initiative. In reality, it's an attempt to get heavy private investment into parts of the world unaccustomed to it and utterly suspicious of it. Most Third World governments fear being cheated by the oil companies. Most oil companies fear nationalization in those countries if their exploration should be successful. By becoming the third partner at the table, the World Bank would offer reassurance to both government and company against exploitation by the other. It's a strategy to accelerate oil exploration in regions where there's very little of it — a point that does not yet appear to have percolated all the way through the administration here in Washington. The World Bank's meeting this week offers the Reagan administration a well-timed opportunity for closer acquaintance with an indispensable institution.

THE WASHINGTON POST

Two Faces of AWACS

It is now the view of President Reagan's closest confidant in Congress that "we would be derelict in our security responsibilities" not to maintain at least "joint control" of any AWACS planes sold to Saudi Arabia — or, for that matter, even a NATO ally. The problem, says Sen. Paul Laxalt, a Republican from Nevada, is "the matter of face" in the sovereign House of Saud: "They don't want signals to be sent ... that they're incapable of handling that type of equipment by themselves."

The senator is only half right. There is also the matter of face in the White House, which wants to avoid any suggestion that it is unable to deliver, even on a foolish promise. If AWACS planes are so sensitive that they should not pass from U.S. control, why not gratefully acknowledge Congress's reluctance, stop berating the "Israeli lobby" and bringing U.S. security concerns to the fore?

The real difficulty with this ill-planned venture is that military security was never the main concern. The Saudis have wanted for years to demonstrate that their oil wealth commands a privileged position in the United States and that they can have it without commitment to U.S. policies or the Egyptian-Israeli peace. And the Pentagon pushed these sales to help write off costly technology and to establish a "presence" where no open base has been allowed.

It may be, as Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger contends, that "the destruction

of the oil-gathering and loading facilities in Saudi Arabia, or their control by a hostile power, could tip the balance of power in the world." But does he think defending all that can be entrusted to Saudi crews? Gen. David C. Jones, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs, says they would need at least 10 years of training after delivery of the AWACS in 1985. And in any case, AWACS aircraft are no defense against home-grown enemies.

Indeed, if the Saudis feel vulnerable enough to tolerate defense of the oilfields by U.S.-run AWACS planes from 1980 to 1985, they could tolerate them indefinitely. If, on the other hand, collaboration with the United States threatens the royal family's domestic security, who will be fooled by overpainting the planes' insignia and disguising essential Americans as "training crews"?

Saudi face can still be saved by a declaration that these sophisticated battle-management systems are not now available for transfer to any nation. That would be a setback for the administration, but surely preferable to rebuff in the Senate or begging Riyadh to accept a camouflaged U.S. control.

But if face is to be saved by a compromise called "joint control," it had better be thought through more carefully than the original deal. Who will decide when these hybrid crews are committed to battle? If the answer is only an embarrassed hedge, two sovereignties will be at risk.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Iran's Firing Squads

The firing squads have been busy in Iran. The number of executions within the past week seems to be approaching several hundred, if the reports in the Tehran press and radio broadcasts are at all accurate. The course of events there is at best difficult to follow; all international news organizations but one, the Agence France-Presse, have been forced out of the country. But it seems obvious that Iran is in the grip of a purge of increasing magnitude. The purge is, equally obviously, the response to the assassinations of government officials — and the executions have not succeeded in ending those attacks.

These fragmentary reports indicate that the guerrilla warfare against the clerical government is coming mainly from the Islamic left, and that it is not limited to covert bombings. There has evidently been open street fighting in many parts of the country. Inevitably, the Kurds have seized the opportunity to reopen their perennial rebellion in the northwest.

The immediate danger is, as always, an even more pervasive civil war leading to the collapse of all central authority in Iran. The struggle between the clerical right and the revolutionary left is already interwoven with the much older, and historically intractable, conflicts of religious sect and ethnic loyalty.

THE WASHINGTON POST

In the International Edition

Seventy-Five Years Ago

September 30, 1906

NEW YORK — A special dispatch from Havana states that Mr. Taft, the secretary of war, is to assume control of Cuba. The U.S. provisional government assumed possession of Cuba this morning, when Mr. Taft's proclamation, declaring himself provisional governor of the island, was formally issued. The proclamation's terms have caused general satisfaction especially on account of the moderate phrases in which it was expressed, its statement that the provisional government is undertaken only on account of the necessities of the situation and its promise that it will be maintained purely to maintain peace, order and public confidence until a permanent government is established.

Fifty Years Ago

September 30, 1931

LONDON — A desperate effort was made here tonight to reach a settlement between Hindus and Moslems before the matter comes up formally again with the sittings of the minorities subcommittee of the Indian round-table conference. Tonight, the Moslems held important conferences among their groups to discuss a proposal said to have been made to them last night, when Gandhi conferred with the Aga Khan and other Moslem leaders. Ma Jinnah, president of the Moslem League, is reported to have threatened him that if the latter does not agree to the Moslem demands he would wreck the round-table conference by refusing to agree to constitutional provisions demanded by the Hindus.



Japan: Proverbs for the Faceless

By James Day Hodgson

WASHINGTON — Back in 1974, by a process I still don't fully comprehend, I found myself invited to represent the United States in Japan. Henry Kissinger, as secretary of state, sent me on my way with an elaborate briefing on the then-current state of geopolitical affairs. Ringing in my mind as I left his baronial office, however, were his final curious words: "Remember, Ambassador, when you ask the Japanese questions, do not expect answers. You will get only proverbs."

Still puzzled by this enigmatic admonition, I set foot on Japanese shores in mid-1974. In my early months there I waited and listened but rarely a proverb did I hear. Late in the year, however, it happened. I was seeking an explanation of the ouster from office of Japan's Prime Minister Tanaka, Japan's vice minister of foreign affairs was my mentor.

"Ah yes," the vice minister advised, "Tanaka's ouster might seem puzzling to outsiders, but you see, in Japan, we have this old proverb."

"Aha," I thought, "here it comes. Kissinger is vindicated!"

"We Japanese explain events like this," he went on, "by saying 'A nail that sticks out gets hammered down.'"

Gets the Picture

Immediately, like a light switched on, I got the picture. In Japan, understatement and modesty are widely admired. The premier was not only excessively assertive. Thus, he had to go.

Following Premier Tanaka's departure, a debate ensued over who should succeed him. Two candidates, Mr. Fukuda and Mr. Ohira, began to vie for the job. What started as some quiet maneuvering soon escalated into a real racket. The decibel ratings of the discourse mounted daily. Each morning we would awaken and grab the newspaper to see which man might have won the job. Then one morning we awoke to a startling headline.

"Aha," I thought, "here it comes. Kissinger is vindicated!"

"We Japanese explain events like this," he went on, "by saying 'A nail that sticks out gets hammered down.'"

Paradoxes

Confounded by the paradoxes I saw, yet definitely attracted by many of Japan's fundamental values, I set out to learn more about what makes the place tick. For tick it certainly does.

As I came to see it, the vast differences between Japan and the West start with value contrasts that can be traced to the very roots of our respective heritages.

Probably the first and foremost value that underpins Western society is that venerable Judeo-Christian objective of justice — justice for the individual. I found it shocking to find that in Japan, division of justice is not a top priority. Is not justice the goal?

Something in many ways almost exactly the opposite — harmony, harmony within the group. Fundamentally our different value systems pit justice against harmony.

How do we Americans seem to achieve justice for ourselves? Mainly through rights created and protected by law. The Bill of Rights, human rights, voting rights, civil rights — as we seek justice for all, America's proud tradition of guaranteed rights has become lengthy. When a contingent of Americans feels put upon, just about its first reaction is to demand a set of legislated rights.

Goal of Harmony

How, then, do the Japanese seek to achieve their goal of harmony? Certainly not by demanding rights. They do it by emphasizing relations. Through the centuries the Japanese have created a society that is now stitched together in a weblike matrix of mutual obligations and responsibilities. This tightly meshed web interlocks them in an inescapable interdependence. Thus it is that often they prefer to accept a minor injustice to themselves rather than create a disharmonious disturbance. Inconsequence, virtually no one sees anyone else in Japan. They have only one-twentieth as many lawyers per capita as we do in the United States.

Recently the Japanese consul general in New York sought to explain his countrymen's penchant for "togetherness." He traced it back to the joint action often needed to survive in an archipelago buffeted by such frequent natural disasters as earthquakes and typhoons. It is a credible explanation. Yet I would add that the low profile for the self that flavors Buddhist teachings, and the acceptance of benign leadership that is so much a part of Confucian doctrine, provide much of the philosophic underpinning needed to support such communal unity.

When we examine the end products

Extremism in Poland: A No-Win Situation

By Jacek Kalabinski

Jacek Kalabinski is a commentator on Polish radio and president of the Warsaw chapter of the Polish Journalists Union. He wrote this article for The New York Times.

NEW YORK — Since the workers' revolt in Baltic ports in August, 1980, Poles often have been threatened with outside interference in their country's affairs and with the use of force by their own government. But instead of moderating the behavior of the workers, these repeated threats have radicalized them. For instance, Soviet military maneuvers held around Poland at the time of Solidarity's first national congress three weeks ago prompted a defiant response: The congress called upon other Eastern European nations to set up their own free trade unions, modeled after Solidarity. Without doubt, this unnecessary, risky appeal, which infuriated the governments of neighboring countries, was triggered by what was perceived as the threat posed by the maneuvers.

No Longer Listen

Polish workers no longer listen when the government cries wolf. Today, most Poles ignore the warnings, or respond aggressively. So many times it has seemed that if this or that thin line were crossed, intervention would necessarily follow. But it turned out that the lines were drawn in time rather than space. Now most Poles believe that if things are done slowly enough to give the Russians time to adjust to the *fait accompli*, almost anything can be done, and tolerated. This is a risky, not to say dangerous, attitude.

Certainly Poland is today a tormented nation — tormented not only by economic difficulties but even more by political frustration.

Both the government and Solidarity are to blame, although in different measures.

The government's original sin was to reconsider the economic and political concessions made to the workers in the Gdansk agreement of August, 1980. The authorities feared that these far-reaching changes in the system would not be acceptable to Poland's neighbors, and they came to feel that any compromise on their part would be regarded as an admission of weakness, a step back under pressure. They decided that the government could regain its credibility only by showing firm even stubborn resolve. Today, some leaders even hope for a quick rollback of the popular movement: they believe that workers can forget their new demands and return to the *status quo ante*.

Strike Publicity

The union's reaction to this new toughness in government policy has been increased defiance, more threats to strike, strike alerts and warning strikes. Since Solidarity was founded, in August, 1980, however, only one workday per worker has been lost because of strikes, considerably less than in

many Western countries, but certainly with much more publicity.

In many cases, strikes have been prevented by mediators, often ad hoc groups of intellectuals or clergymen who made a great effort to save face for the government. But before long it became clear that in spite of the authorities' wish to appear uncompromising, they could be pressed into making concessions. Indeed, trade-union activists have learned that the government is prepared to compromise only under pressure — and the stronger the pressure, the better the deal.

In Political Bind

Thus, the strong-arm tactics designed to strengthen the government's prestige have in fact damaged it further. While the government is busy defending an image of authority, it has little or no time to cope with Poland's real problems. This, in turn, has deepened the public's conviction that the government is doing nothing and that the party only breaks the process of renewal.

As a result, both sides have turned to more extremist, confrontational tactics. Solidarity's rank-and-file members are becoming more radical than their national or regional leaders, more radical even than the former dissidents now active in the union.

On the other side, the Communist Party Congress in July only strengthened the partisans of a "roll-back" policy, confirming their authority by a democratic election. Moreover, the newly elected workers in the Central Committee generally come from medium-sized factories in small communities and thus tend to be politically naive and easily manipulated by professional party politicians who favor the hardliners.

Today, both sides are in a political bind. The government perceives that the union wants to take power. Each side blames the other for the deepening political crisis and resulting economic difficulties and tensions.

Miscalculated

The government is convinced that the people are disillusioned by Solidarity, and it hopes to destroy the union's prestige and political power by provoking it into declaring a general strike if impossible circumstances — to make demands that most Poles would not support, at a time when the call would not be followed.

But in this government has badly miscalculated. Many Poles blame the authorities for what is wrong with the country, and most young, professionally and politically active people are firmly behind Lech Wałęsa's union. No threats can change that. The crux of the problem is the government's failure to understand that a heavy-handed approach has always hardened the stubborn Poles instead of making them more compliant. No worker can win in such a confrontation, so it must be avoided, because the interests not only of Poland but of its neighbors as well.

Reagan: The Credibility Trap

By David S. Broder

WASHINGTON — The fiscal year is one of those bits of jargon that thrives in its own natural habitat, the corporate report or the agency budget, but is never quite at home in a living-room discussion or barroom bull session.

But in Washington this week, the talk is that the fiscal year starting Thursday, Fiscal Year 1982, will be a year like no other. That, of course, is because the first round of President Reagan's budget and tax cuts becomes effective on Oct. 1, and the effects, both good and ill, can then begin to be felt.

As a journalist, I am in a weak position to tramp on anyone's enthusiasm for something new. Novelty, real or simulated, is the lifeblood of our business. But what strikes me, as we all prepare to enter this new fiscal year and maybe this new era, is the enduring importance of one of the oldest and most basic political rules of them all.

That rule is: Keep your commitments.

Carter as Victim

Jimmy Carter fell victim to disregarding it, as much as he fell victim to inflation, the OPEC oil squeeze and the mess-up Iranian hostage situation.

The rap on Mr. Carter, from politicians who knew him before he came to Washington, was that his handshake was sometimes something less than an ironclad guarantee. He started getting in trouble in this capital when officials of his own Democratic Party learned, to their dismay, that he was capable of changing his mind about tax reform, welfare projects and national health programs, sometimes without bothering to inform them. By the time he was negotiating on things like the neutron bomb deployment and the Iowa debt debate, the game was up for him.

Mr. Reagan and his administra-

tion — composed of more experienced and tested politicians — had given up the funding of dozens of programs vital to their districts. What happens when one politician begins to doubt another's word is a swift and sickening destruction of the mutual commitments that are essential to success. Without that mutual trust, government itself becomes impossible and the course of policy unpredictable.

People inside an administration get confused by signals from the top and are no longer certain what is the real policy line. The United States saw that last week in the contradictory statements from Cabinet officers and White House aides on school lunch programs and the future of revenue-sharing.

Then the congressmen who have been willing to put their necks in the line for the president seem to their constituents' consternation, and the chief executive finds himself without the allies he needs to win the battles on Capitol Hill. Something very like that is happening to Mr. Reagan on the new round of budget cuts.

It is not too late to halt the damage. But it is more too easy to focus on the risks of reviving the credibility problem that ultimately plagued Jimmy Carter. This threat is a lot more serious to the Reagan administration's future than another month of high interest rates.

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INTERN

Sweden's Falldin Facing Political Test Over Economy

This is the first of two articles assessing the political and economic prospects for Sweden and alternatives being presented by the nation's two principal political leaders.

By Axel Krause

International Herald Tribune
STOCKHOLM — General elections in Sweden are still a year away, but the two leading contenders — the Centrist premier, Thorbjörn Falldin, and the Social-Democratic leader, Olof Palme — have already squared off in what is emerging as one of the most ardent political debates in Sweden since the end of World War II.

On Sept. 14, in a move widely regarded as the opening salvo, Mr. Falldin devalued the krona by 10 percent and announced a package of measures aimed at strengthening the sagging economy, driving down double-digit inflation and improving the export competitiveness of Swedish products.

"By the action he took, particularly the devaluation, which we welcomed, he has started the debate on Sweden's economic future," said Carl G. Olson, president of Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken, Sweden's leading bank.

The first political test for the package will be the parliamentary debate after legislators return from their present recess on Oct. 6. The government's package will be submitted for a vote several weeks later, and it has a fair chance of passing in its present form, according to interviews last week with a dozen leading political, financial and business leaders in Stockholm.

Tobacco Stocks Sold by U.S. Medical Group

By Walter Sullivan
New York Times Service

CHICAGO — The American Medical Association has sold about \$1.4 million in tobacco stocks, an AMA spokesman says, reacting to embarrassing publicity about profits it was making from cigarette sales.

"The publicity from the fact that the AMA owned stock in these companies has hurt," the spokesman said Monday. "All our work to get people to stop smoking was lost."

The stock — in R.J. Reynolds Industries and Philip Morris, both cigarette producers — was sold in recent weeks, the spokesman said. It had been held by the AMA's physician-retirement plan.

"Selling the stock shows that M.D.s are putting their money where their mouths are when they preach to their patients about the dangers of smoking," said Dr. Alan Blum, a Chicago physician and one of the first AMA members to raise the issue.

WORLDWIDE ENTERTAINMENT

PARIS

O.V. - DOLBY STEREO: GAUMONT CHAMPS-ELYSEES - HAUTEVILLE O.V.: QUARTIER LATIN - GAUMONT LES HALLES

ALTERED STATES

Something almost beyond description is happening to a brilliant young scientist in a laboratory in one of America's leading medical schools. He's conducting an experiment into the神奇 effects of sensory deprivation and halucinatory drugs. The subject of the experiment is himself and the experiment is out of control. Ken Russell's awesome film must not be missed.

ALDEA DU RÉAL: WILLIAM HURT - BLAIR BROWN - BOB BALABAN - CHARLES HADID - DANIEL MELNICK - JOHN CORIGLIOANO - SIDNEY AARON - PADDOCK CHAYEVSKY - HOWARD GOTTFRIED - KEN RUSSELL

LES 2 MEILLEURES SOIRES DE PARIS

NOUVELLE REVUE COCORICO !

WATUSI DANS FRENESIE

MOULIN ROUGE

20h30 Diner dansant champagne et revue

295 F

22h30 Revue et 0h30 champagne

200 F

PRIX NET/SERVICE COMPRIS

NORMANDIE

116 bis av. des Champs-Elysées

563 11 61 et agences

— his Center Party and the Liberals.

"Of course I intend to present myself for re-election in September, 1982, and we hope for the support of the Swedish people regarding our program for improving the Swedish economy," he said.

Swinging between answers that came through an interpreter, he sketched the broad outlines of his program, described by his advisers as "Reaganomics, Swedish style."

"Everyone in this country has realized that we need to make changes — that we cannot go on with our high [public sector] spending," Mr. Falldin said. "We have decided to propose steps which next year will hold back government spending by about 12 billion kronor, and to cut the turnover tax. These and related steps are aimed at keeping an open market economy here in Sweden."

Convincing the Nation

Stressing that he eschews pure classical liberalism, he said the package is aimed at moving Sweden away from established welfare state concepts and practice, but without destroying the system. "We must make improvements in order to keep our socially regulated market economy," he said.

Strong Grip

In an interview in Stockholm last week, Mr. Falldin gave the impression of a leader determined to fight hard for his job and to maintain a strong grip on the leadership of the nation's main conservative parties, with whom he is governing

— his Center Party and the Liberals.

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Defeat Predicted

He said he was not certain the government "can make the necessary savings and still cover costs for our established programs." He did not indicate how his party will vote later this month.

Opinion polls and the media

return to power by the Social Democrats next autumn, creating divisions among the non-Socialist parties and public frustration with the government's lukewarm approach to lowering top-bracket income taxes, fighting inflation and growing unemployment, and trimming Sweden's soaring public sector debt.

Enjoying Travel

Many observers, including leading Swedish bankers and independent economists, wonder what specifically Mr. Falldin has in mind for the future. Some politicians, including non-Socialists, doubt that the program can succeed, and many businessmen wished the devaluation had been

done earlier.

Political observers in Stockholm

said that the publicity could help Mr. Falldin. "He has a long way to go to catch up with Palme on the international front, but he is trying," a banker said.

U.S. Jets Intercept 2 Soviet Planes

United Press International

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. — For the third time in less than a week, Air Force jets have scrambled and intercepted Soviet reconnaissance planes off the East Coast, the Air Force says.

Two Soviet Tu-95s were met 220

miles (352 kilometers) east of Norfolk, Va., by two F-106 fighter-interceptors from Langley Air Force Base, according to an Air Force report Monday.

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of Progress in Materials Science, a

British publication.

Reporter Quits Over Misstatements

Los Angeles Times Service

LOS ANGELES — An Associated Press reporter has resigned after inquiries by the Los Angeles Times disclosed that she had written a story containing misrepresentations and incorrectly attributed quotations that had originally appeared in a West Coast magazine.

Gloria Ohland, 29, a reporter in the AP's Los Angeles bureau since June, 1979, wrote what was purported to be a first-person account of a "banzai run," a high-speed, multicar run down a freeway here at speeds up to 200 miles per hour (360 kilometers per hour).

Although she did ride briefly in two high-speed cars, neither car approached 200 mph and a three-car caravan she described in her story did not exist, the Times reported. The Times found that many of the statements attributed to her driver and to a California Highway Patrol officer originally appeared, with much the same wording, in New West magazine nine months ago.

The AP transmitted the Ohland story twice this month, to newspapers in California and Nevada on Sept. 4 and to papers throughout the rest of the country on Sept. 21.

The AP ran a five-paragraph "corrective" article during the weekend. It said the story "misrepresented the circumstances under which it was gathered and contained several inaccurately attributed quotations." An AP executive said Miss Ohland had resigned.

Rómulo Betancourt Dies; Twice Governed Venezuela

(Continued from Page 1)

1948, after Venezuela's first democratic elections.

Under Mr. Betancourt, Acción Democrática had begun an energetic reform campaign that included an excess-profits tax, rent reductions, obligatory profit-sharing with employees and the 50-50 formula that gave Venezuela half the profits of the oil companies.

Alarmed by the leftist trend and above all by plans to form a "peo-

ple's militia," the army staged a

new coup in November, and Mr. Betancourt again went into exile.

For more than nine years he lived in Washington, New York, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico and the Venezuelan press was forbidden to mention his name, but through underground organizations he maintained his influence in politics.

In January, 1958, the armed forces rose against the dictatorship of Gen. Marcos Pérez Jiménez, who had been a member of the 1945 junta. Mr. Betancourt was able to return and reorganize his party, and in presidential elections in December he won with 1,284,902 votes out of a total of 2,610,833. His party won an absolute majority in Congress.

His government successfully put down an army revolt in April, 1960. In June that year he narrowly escaped death when a bomb exploded beside his car. In 1964 he yielded office to the newly elected president, Dr. Raúl Leoni, who had been labor minister in the Betancourt government.

The former president traveled extensively, spending much of his time in Bern, so that, he said, there would be a total break with his in-

fluence in Venezuela and Dr. Leoni could institute his own policies.

In 1972 he ended his voluntary exile and returned home to serve as elder statesman and advocate for democracy.

Lord Boyle

LEEDS, England (AP) — Lord Boyle, 58, a former education minister and Britain's first leading Conservative Party politician publicly to oppose sporting links with South Africa, died Monday. He was vice chairman of the Fair Cricket Campaign, which organized nonviolent anti-apartheid demonstrations that failed to stop a 1970 tour of Britain by South African cricketers.

Bill Shankly

LIVERPOOL (AP) — Former Liverpool manager Bill Shankly, 67, one of the most successful coaches in English soccer history, died Tuesday after a heart attack. He was in charge of Liverpool for 15 years, retiring in 1974 after guiding the team to three league championships, two FA Cup final triumphs and victory in the UEFA Cup.

Dr. George W. Corner

BALTIMORE (UPI) — Dr. George W. Corner, 91, whose research into the female reproductive system paved the way for the development of the birth control pill, has died in Huntsville, Ala., the John Hopkins Medical School announced. Dr. Corner and a co-worker, Willard M. Allen, were first to identify the hormone progesterone, whose isolation was the basis for later research teams that developed the contraceptive pill.

Business and Social Research Institute, an independent think tank based in Stockholm. "Most people get the same impression."

"But do not be misled, for Mr. Falldin's move now represents a very definite effort to re-establish himself and to show that his government is not paralyzed, as some people think," Mr. Ryden added.

Mr. Falldin said he was looking forward to discussing strategic issues with U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger in Stockholm in mid-October, and then to attending the October conference of rich and poor nations in Cancún, Mexico, as the representative of the Nordic countries.

Enjoying Travel

"It has not been publicized widely, but the premier — to our delight — has actually started to enjoy the travel and meeting other top leaders," one of his advisers said, noting that in the past year he has visited China and Kenya and that he plans to visit India in February.

Many observers, including leading Swedish bankers and independent economists, wonder what specifically Mr. Falldin has in mind for the future. Some politicians, including non-Socialists, doubt that the program can succeed, and many businessmen wished the devaluation had been done earlier.

Providing the controversial idea

of a nuclear-free Nordic zone, which neutralist Sweden favors.

Mr. Falldin said "I imagine it will come up" during Mr. Weinberger's visit, but he said he did not intend to push hard for its adoption and considered it an issue that had died.

He has visited China and Kenya and that he plans to visit India in February.

Mr. Weinberger's visit will be the first to Sweden by a U.S. Cabinet member since President Reagan's election. U.S. officials say the visit was scheduled by the Carter administration and there are no major problems between the United States and Sweden.

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Lifestyles

The New \$3-Million U.S. Hideaway of Jackie Onassis

By Sharon Hamric
United Press International

MARTHA'S VINEYARD, Mass. — Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis has a new \$3-million island hideaway on Martha's Vineyard, where she can spend the summer secluded from the giant public.

Building inspector Zachary Zandler certified the secluded, three-story traditional Cape Cod house, barn and silo "livable" in June.

"There's no other place like it. The vegetation and the mixture of plants — it's all small scale, almost like a type of bonsai. It has incredible rocks, wildlife and fresh water ponds," Zandler said of the site where Onassis built the cedar-shingled home.

The much-talked-about complex, invisible from the road and the beach, is on Squibbet Point in Gay Head, a sparsely populated community on the western tip of Martha's Vineyard.

The 10,000 people who live year-round on the island 30 miles (48 kilometers) off the coast of Cape Cod seem indifferent to the arrival of another summertime celebrity.

"For us, it's not unusual to see Jackie at the fair or Walter Cronkite on his bike or Carly Simon or Beverly Sills at the A&P," said Chamber of Commerce spokeswoman Joann Walker.

Onassis, who spends much of the year in New York, where she works at a publishing

house, assured Gay Head's 150 year-round residents that she intended to make her home as unobtrusive as possible. In 1978, she paid the Hornblower family \$1.1 million for the 276 acres (110 hectares) of land.

For those who do get a look, the house is worth seeing. Those involved with the project were reluctant to reveal its building costs, but several sources have placed it at more than \$2 million.

The complex consists of a main house, a barnlike guest house, a two-car detached garage and tennis courts. The landscape has been left in its natural state. Cedar shingles cover the sides and roofs of the house, barn and garage, which all have white trim and old-fashioned New England shutters.

The main house has a living room, a family room, five bathrooms, three bedrooms and two fireplaces.

"The view is disguised so that you don't get the full impact of the ocean view until you are in the living room, which is all white — the walls, the floor, the fireplace and even the chimney," Zandler said. The floors are bleached oak. "They have some sort of white wash on them," he said.

The kitchen is equipped with a 16-burner stove, a pantry, a dishwasher and a laundry area. A mammoth butcher-block shopping table takes up a large part of the kitchen, said Maggie Putnam, a Gay Head resident.

"It's a private house, not a public house, and she wants to keep it that way," Forger said from his New York office.

All the bathrooms have electrically heated towel bars. "They are stainless steel bars hidden in the wall. The heat comes through the wall and warms the whole towel. The only place that makes them is in New York," said a source who asked not to be named.

The two-story guest house has three skylights, two bedrooms, four bathrooms, a kitchen, a living room and an attached silo.

The guest house was built to look like a barn," Zandler said. "The silo is mainly for looks. It has a winding stairway with windows and a reading room at the top."

A wraparound patio adjoins two sides of the main house. The deck furniture is of modern white tubing with blue cushions.

Jim Leroux, who owns the dry-wall firm that worked on the home, described the complex as "a nice addition to the island."

"I think it's a nice house and tastefully done," Leroux said. "But now she deserves the privacy she's tried to capture."

Zandler said he never met Onassis but dealt exclusively with Alexander Forger, her trustee and attorney, and Anna Wallace, a Vineyard resident who described herself as "a go-between in the project."

Both stressed Onassis' desire to enjoy her home in privacy.

"She's very happy here and just wants her own space and privacy," Wallace said.

"It's a private house, not a public house, and she wants to keep it that way," Forger said from his New York office.

Films

'Garde à Vue' Is a Classic French Detective Thriller

By Thomas Quinn Curtis
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Set down "Garde à Vue" by Claude Miller as something to see.

Cruelly penetrating, neatly maneuvered and commendably acted, it is the best film the French cinema has disgorged in a long while. The shrewd observation of its three principals and the precise handling of the material contain the Gallic salt with which French directors of an earlier and happier day flavored their work. In sombre misanthropy if not in its less ambitious execution it recalls the Clouzot of "Le Corbeau" and "Les Diaboliques."

This very French product is derived from an American detective novel with the scene shifted to provincial France. On a many New Year's Eve, a solid citizen of the town, donning his dinner jacket for a party, is escorted to police headquarters. There he is questioned through the night, being charged with the violation and murder of two little girls.

He is savagely grilled by a dry-spoken investigator and his sadistic clerk; his wife — who hates him like a rat hates poison — arrives gratuitously at the station to give unsolicited and fraudulent evidence that she hopes will lead to his beheading. In disgust with everything and everyone, the innocent suspect signs a confession, but is liberated with apologies when the true culprit is apprehended. An O. Henry twist follows, but that you must witness yourself.

The grim tale is vividly told. In essence it is a Grand Guignol shocker aided by some biting lines from Michel Audiard. There is a commendable economy in the execution of its staging. Like most talkies it talks too much, but unlike the majority it talks to the point, providing insight to the revelations.

There is uncommon skill in the interweaving of a flashback to the home fireside realizing the damning lie that the woman recites against her husband. The whole thing has been done with simplicity and verve and retains suspense during its hour and a half, being mercifully brief and wasting no time on the unnecessary details so often piled on in meandering movies.



Lino Ventura (left), Michel Serrault in "Garde à Vue."

Lino Ventura delivers an admirable characterization as the cynical detective, and Michel Serrault gives a glimpse of his range in his persuasive performance as the persecuted suspect. Romy Schneider brings a sinister glitter to the role of the deceitful woman who loathes her mate so implacably, while Guy Marchand etches the mean-minded and inefficient police stenographer into a full-blooded villain.

Both Miller's taut scenario and his direction of it are deserving of high marks. "Garde à Vue" is at the Berlitz, the Gaumont Les Halles and the France-Elysees, among others. It is destined for success at home and abroad.

* * *

Francois Truffaut has established an international reputation that is sometimes justified and sometimes not. He works more consistently than any other French director, but his work is startlingly inconsistent, now amazingly good and then flabbergastingly feeble.

What we have here is a tub of soap opera. The publicist of this sex study has begged reviewers not to reveal the movie's plot, and this is judicious advice as there is no plot as such, merely a situation — the return of an old flame to bedevil her former lover now married to another.

Truffaut is simply not the man to create a "world-well-lost-for-love" romance, nor is Fanny Ardant convincing as the femme fatale. Gérard Depardieu as the passion-torn protagonist strives earnestly to move from one ridiculous episode to another, accompanied by a dialogue of prim-

tors, Suzanne Schiffman and Jean Aurel, have composed on a theme utterly beyond his capabilities. Its subject is mad passion's havoc.

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It is not sufficient, as Donner seems to have believed, to suddenly turn on radiant light after an hour of heavy gloom. A situation as depressing as the one treated here requires the voltage of powerful drama to compensate for its tour of the lower depths. Otherwise, as in this instance, the depression is doubled.

The almost instant disappearance of Richard Donner's "Inside Moves" is strange enough to merit mention. It came to the Deauville festival heralded by several rave reviews in U.S. newspapers and at the festival received reputable notices from French critics. Yet its first-run release engagement must be one of the shortest on record.

It is an account of a group of handicapped men who gather to converse and play cards in a shabby saloon to forget their miseries, and of a desolate young man, crippled in a suicide attempt, who joins them and in their company is restored to accepting his lot. The inglorious moods of its first quarter, its doleful setting and maimed people, together with its verbosity, evidently scared off customers. John Savage, a youthful actor of considerable talent, rendered a satisfactory if studied impersonation of the unhappy protagonist and all the other gave the venture unsightly support.

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It is an account of a group of handicapped men who gather to converse and play cards in a shabby saloon to forget their miseries, and of a desolate young man, crippled in a suicide attempt, who joins them and in their company is restored to accepting his lot. The inglorious moods of its first quarter, its doleful setting and maimed people, together with its verbosity, evidently scared off customers. John Savage, a youthful actor of considerable talent, rendered a satisfactory if studied impersonation of the unhappy protagonist and all the other gave the venture unsightly support.

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Banking and Finance in the ARAB WORLD

A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

French Leaving Boards In Region

By Alan Tillier

WINDS of change have blown through the previously close-knit world of Franco-Arab banking, where for seven years or more the men controlling the major French state banks and others have sat around boardroom tables with bankers from Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and elsewhere. The French are now departing from the boardrooms.

The first gusts were discernible before the recent radical change of government in Paris, a shift that caused considerable nervousness in the Gulf capitals and which prompted a not inconsiderable withdrawal of funds. Before the French elections in May, the Arab shareholders in the consortium banks had reached the conclusion that they were sufficiently mature to take over.

President Charles de Gaulle and Georges Pompidou, at the start of the 1970s, saw these banks as the commercial expression of the pro-Arab tilt in French policy, following the 1967 Israeli-Egyptian war. The French state banks entered into partnership with the Arabs and for some time ran the show.

The three major consortium banks — Union des Banques Arabes et Françaises (UBAF), Frab Bank International and Banque Arabe et Internationale d'Investissement (BAII) — are all being pulled toward an Arab position. The change is clear with UBAF and Frab, much less so with BAII.

Shockwave

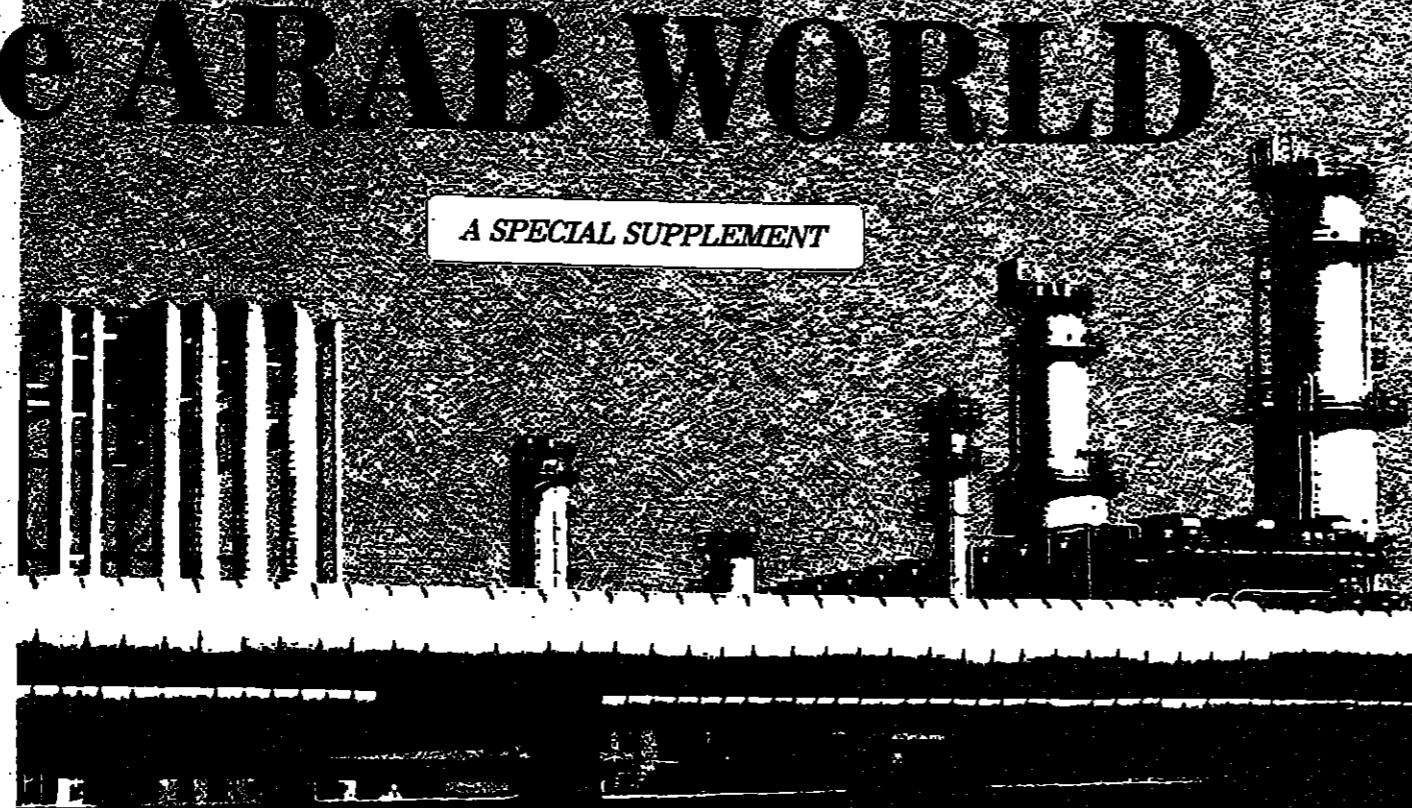
This summer has seen some major changes. The decision of Credit Lyonnais, the No. 2 French state-controlled bank, to drop out of the holding company controlling UBAF, sent something of a shockwave through the French banking community well before the much-publicized nationalization of 36 private French banks by the new government.

There followed the Arabization of Frab, where Sté. Générale, the No. 3 French bank, and various international partners hold 50 percent of the capital, along with Kuwaiti- and Saudi-dominated Arab interests. The new controlling partner will be the National Bank of Kuwait. Out of the consortium, along with Sté. Générale are Sté. Générale de Banque of Belgium, Swiss Bank Corp., Amro Bank, Industrial Bank of Japan and the National Investment Bank of Greece.

The Arabization started before the change of regime in France and, ironically, is continuing because of it. UBAF wanted greater Arab control for a long time while the others are seeking that because of the internal political change. The departure of President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing frightened Arab rulers and some, such as the Emir of Qatar, withdrew money and dropped plans for joint investment companies.

But others decided to reinforce their positions. This will be the case with the Kuwaitis, within Frab, despite the fact that the new Kuwaiti Bank in Paris, which is purely French, is now operating.

The French-Arab consortium (Continued on Page 14S)



Petrodollar Threat Fails to Materialize

By Shakib Otaqui

THE SCENARIOS of doom that followed the 1973-1974 oil price rises have not materialized.

The world's financial markets have been able to process the enormously increased flow funds, most of which have returned to the countries that paid them in the first place. The growth in financial reserves of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries has stabilized — revenue has been constrained by the fall in demand for oil, while expenditure on development has exceeded original estimates of these countries' ability to absorb.

OPEC members' large current-account surpluses virtually disappeared by 1978, when their combined total was only about \$5 billion. They recovered in 1979 and 1980 under the impact of the Iranian revolution but have since declined because of the world oil surplus.

Exact figures are hard to come by. Sources such as the Bank of England, the Bank for International Settlements and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development give wildly different estimates; so do reports from such private institutions as banks and oil companies. Estimates for 1979 average out at \$63.5 billion rising to \$107.3 billion in 1980. Forecasts for 1980 and 1981 vary even more widely but average out at \$83 billion and \$60 billion, respectively.

Eurodollar Markets

The dollar has been traditionally the favorite home for OPEC funds. These have not necessarily poured into the United States, as much of the holdings have been placed in the Eurodollar markets. But by the beginning of the 1980s, the dollar has lost some of its attraction, and OPEC fund managers have become increasingly sophisticated in finding other outlets.

The crunch came with the freezing of Iranian assets during the crisis over the U.S. hostages in 1979, which sent shivers down the spines of OPEC governments. This shock followed the chronic weakness of the dollar in the 1970s. Buying U.S. government securities, a favorite with the Saudis, has been described by a U.S. observer as "buying a piece of our inflation and a piece of our national debt."

The shift out of the dollar became evident in 1980, when the Bank of

England estimated the dollar share of OPEC foreign assets to have been 70 percent at the end of June, down from 75 percent at the end of 1979. The trend has accelerated in 1981, when OPEC countries in the first quarter placed only 40 percent of their new deposits with member banks of the Bank for International Settlements in dollars.

This has coincided with a revival of OPEC investment in Japan and other industrial countries. Total OPEC holdings in Japan reached \$25.5 billion in 1980, more than double the 1979 figure. They are expected to soar to \$78 billion by 1985, according to a survey by the Nomura Research Institute. Holdings in West Germany and Switzerland are also rising, as economic difficulties have forced these countries — which have traditionally been against internationalizing their currencies — to offer government securities in their own currencies to oil producers.

Different Policies

Contrary to scare stories about the Arabs buying up America — or other countries — OPEC members do not act in concert and have followed some quite different investment policies. The two largest surplus countries — Saudi Arabia and Kuwait — follow notably divergent investment strategies.

The Saudis have been particularly conservative. About 40 percent of their assets are held with foreign banks, with the remainder mostly in government securities; they also have large holdings in commercial paper of top-rated private borrowers. While this approach is politically safe, the Saudis have certainly suffered from the high inflation rates of the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Kuwait, on the other hand, has been much more aggressive in seeking investments with higher yields, and has led other OPEC members in its equity holdings. These have often caused controversy, particularly in the United States, where there have recently been scare stories about the extent of Kuwaiti shareholdings in industrial companies. But, while Kuwait aims for diversification and a good return, its strategy remains conservative and it does not indulge in speculation.

In their efforts to diversify away from dependence on the United

(Continued on Page 14S)

GIB: Activity, Profits Showing Sharp Gains

By John Roberts

A RAB banks have linked up with banks in other countries for decades to boost trade and service the requirements of particular groups of Arab expatriates. Such links led to the foundation of the Arab-Malaysian bank in Bahrain in 1975, the Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait in 1971, the Banque Libano-Bresiliense in 1962 and the United Bank of Lebanon and Pakistan, founded in 1964.

In the same category are banks that span more than two countries, such as the Bank of Oman, Bahrain and Kuwait (1974) and the Beirut-based Arab Libyan Tunisian Bank (1973). The trend for establishing such banks started in Beirut and was adopted by Kuwait.

The year 1975 saw the establishment of a different kind of bank. Gulf International Bank (GIB) was formed with shareholdings from seven Arab governments: Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Each has a 14.28 percent stake in the bank. In 1980, GIB was the most active Arab bank in lead-managing syndicated loans, handling 20 loans

totaling \$3,675 billion. It was sufficient to place GIB 37th in the unofficial league table of the world's most active lead-managers.

International Bank

GIB, which styles itself the international bank of the seven Gulf states, was the first of the major state-capitalized banks and is often considered in juxtaposition to the far newer and more active Arab Banking Corporation (ABC). Whereas GIB's capital was increased in January to a total of \$200 million, ABC started off in April, 1980, with an authorized capital of \$1 billion, of which \$375 million was fully paid. ABC's paid-up capital was doubled to \$750 million on April 1, 1981.

GIB Chairman Abdulla Saif, in the bank's 1980 report, said the bank had a good year with profits up sharply to \$12.5 million from \$6.5 million in 1979. In addition to a major increase in loan syndication activity, GIB had increased its involvement in bonding and guarantee facilities for contractors in the Middle East. Its participation in loans geared to infrastructure development also helped GIB improve its penetration of the construction, building materials, transport and light-manufacturing markets.

ABC's growth during the first year of its existence was staggering. In the first half of 1981, it was the most active Arab bank in syndicated loans, handling \$9.54 billion in loans. Its performance supported the theory that it was disillusioned with the speed of GIB's growth. Having failed to entice the Kuwaitis then joined up with Libya and the United Arab Emirates, the two other shareholders in ABC.

Whether the story is true has not been confirmed, but certainly ABC's growth has been remarkable. Ironically, the emergence of ABC may have contributed to a remarkable surge of dynamism within GIB. In the first half of 1981, it was the world's 17th most active bank in syndicated loans, according to the Paris-based Caplo International Finance Data, handling loans worth \$6,690 billion.

Consolidation

Arab bankers will be as interested in comparing ABC's and GIB's performance as a category of banks — the state-owned banks — as with their performance as ostensible rivals. Their management appears to be much simpler than that of the conventional consortium banks which represented the first phase of pan-Arab banking.

The consortium banks have had shareholders, a variety of national and commercial banks. They are often characterized by the complexity of these shareholdings. The Paris-based Union de

l'Investissement Internationale (UBAF), for instance, has a convoluted holding structure. Credit Lyonnais holds a 30-percent share, while other routine shareholdings are held by Banque Francaise du Commerce Extérieur (8 percent) and Banque Générale du Phenix (2 percent).

The largest shareholding, 60 percent, is held by a company called URAV Nederland BV, whose share capital is wholly owned by URAV Curacao NV, and its capital is in turn held by the former Arab shareholders of UBAF.

Renewed Expansion

These comprise 26 Arab banks, covering at least 16 countries. They include state banks such as Iraq's Rafidain Bank and the Commercial Bank of Syria, and private banks such as Al-Ahli Bank of Kuwait and the Amman-based Arab Bank. URAV, whose share capital is wholly owned by URAV Curacao NV, and its capital is in turn held by the former Arab shareholders of UBAF.

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Arab Investor: What's He Doing, Where's He Going?

By Roger Azar

THE SHARE of Europe in the flow of Arab investment will certainly diminish progressively in the next few years. The emphasis will be on the Arab world and the far East.

Outside the United States, Europe has been a natural choice for Arab investors. It was one place that they knew and had conducted business. But with the increase in investment sophistication and the opening up of other areas of more profitable investments this trend is likely to change to the detriment of the West, where there is still resistance to Arab investments.

Investment opportunities at home have become rather limited and opportunities abroad are increasingly looked at as alternative sources of profit. The criteria for selecting investments abroad are various.

squeeze on profit margins that resulted from increased competition, very few surplus funds were available in the hands of private individuals for investing abroad. The funds available were used for the acquisition of private estates abroad and other forms of conspicuous consumption.

Today things have changed. Public expenditures have decreased, as most infrastructure is now in place. There were also the sociological problems created by the inflow of foreign labor in large quantities into an area of small indigenous population.

Investment opportunities at home have become rather limited and opportunities abroad are increasingly looked at as alternative sources of profit. The criteria for selecting investments abroad are various.

Liquidity is the second important factor as the Arab investor, living in a changing investment environment, is well aware that what is a good investment today might not be so tomorrow, especially if his friends get the same idea and pour money into a particular sector or business activity.

Safety is also an important factor for investments. Most investors, however, have a portion of their money tucked away in Switzerland. This is hardly touch and go, as insurance funds rather than private funds. It is significant that, even in times of liquidity squeeze and great need, for certain none of these investors will ever touch his Swiss funds, or even consider them part of his network. This is why, with what he considers as investment funds, safety is less important than one would guess.

Also gaining importance among individual investors

is the degree of complementarity that his investment will have vis-à-vis his present business or existing assets. Individuals tend to invest in what they know, sometimes to the detriment of diversification.

Outsiders believe that prestige is a crucial factor for Arab investors. It is in many ways a secondary consideration, and has become even more so since a number of publicized transactions have led most investors to become more low-keyed and secretive.

There are a number of new investment companies, particularly in Kuwait and the Gulf, whose aim is to channel the investments of individuals and to create an instrument with know-how and expertise.

Most of these companies, although there are notable exceptions, have turned out to be speculative vehicles for their founders. The issue price of the share would always increase substantially a few weeks after closing for no obvious reason, since the company had not started operating and the sector in which it planned to operate was so vast that one could not really predict what the outcome of its investments would be.

Founders

Such companies, which mushroomed over the last two years, have slowed down for lack of founders. Any one important has been the founder of at least one company. There won't be many general purpose investment companies created in the near future, but there might be a number of specialized investment companies coming to the market with emphasis either on geography or by type of investment.

It is likely to be the results of existing investment companies, as most of them do not have any management. They will be more conservative in their investment approach and will emphasize income (to pay dividends) rather than capital gains, and select less risky investments to avoid public criticism. Ask

(Continued on Page 14S)

INTERNATIONAL
Herald Tribune

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PARIS, SEPTEMBER, 1981

Islamic Financing Offers Alternative to West's Way

By Ken Whittingham

FOR YEARS, the developing world, led by the Arab oil-producing states, has been calling for a new economic order. The call won some sympathy in the industrial nations, but the much discussed Brundt Report gathers dust.

A recent meeting in Paris to discuss the fate of the less developed countries (LDCs), jargon for the chronically poor, produced platitudes but offered no solutions. The advanced industrial nations, pleading recession, will not willingly change the world economic order. For all their much publicized surplus wealth, the Arab oil states with total revenues amounting to a small fraction of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development income, cannot alone change the world. A radical solution is required if the poorest developing nations are to be given a chance to move from the bottom rung of the economic ladder.

When people talk of the Islamic renaissance, their minds are usually focused on the events in Iran, which have little to do with the spirit of Islam or the aspirations of the vast majority of Moslems. The real Islamic renaissance lies elsewhere: in a determined attempt by the people of the Islamic nations to run their affairs in accordance with the principles and directives of Islamic scripture and tradition.

This does not imply a backward approach to the problems of the modern world. The essence of the Islamic revival in recent years is a new confidence, partly because of the boost provided by oil revenues and partly because Moslems educated in the West believe that Islamic principles for business and society offer a fairer system with the same benefits.

Investment Firm

For this reason, a group of young Moslem economists in 1978 put their Western-acquired expertise at the service of the Islamic Investment Co., a new venture set up by Saudi businessman Prince Mohammed al-Faisal al-Saud. The company was to operate in strict accordance with Islamic law, which meant basically that interest on capital, deposited and borrowed, is forbidden. Profit accruing from money being put to work, on the other hand, is acceptable.

At a time when interest rates in the Western banking system have been at record levels, such a proposition may seem less attractive. But Hassan Abdul Qader, director of the Islamic Investment Co.'s head office in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, said that the new company had proved the opposite.

The IIC set its sights not on the wealthy investor who has links with the international money markets but on the man in the street — millions of Moslems who have probably never thought of putting their spare money to work or have not had the channels to do so. Within three years, the IIC had a working capital of more than \$70 million, representing more than 11,000 investors. Requests for branch offices to be opened were coming in from the 43-nation Islamic world, and from countries as far apart as Australia and Britain, where the envoys were not only Moslems.

The IIC operates trust funds (*mudaraba*). The investor must deposit a minimum of \$250, which is free to supplement or withdraw as he pleases. There are no penalties for withdrawing funds, and there is no minimum period before profit becomes payable. The fund has been doing well. In 1980, the fourth *mudaraba* achieved a return of 12 percent after management fees were deducted.

In May, the board of directors of the Islamic Investment Co. met at its European headquarters in Geneva to discuss the phenomenal expansion of business. It was decided to form Dar al Mal al-Islami (the Islamic Finance House).

Board of Experts

The new company, registered in the Bahamas during the month of Ramadhan (July, 1981) with an authorized capital of \$1 billion, incorporates the Islamic Investment Co. and a number of other financial activities, all run in accordance with Islamic precepts and under the supervision of a board of Islamic legal experts. The honorary founders of the company, headed by Prince Mohammed al-Faisal, include the presidents of Sudan, Pakistan, Guinea, Malaysia

and the United Arab Emirates, the emir of Bahrain and other prominent persons from all over the Islamic world.

Thus and other moves to partly replace the interest-based Western financial system are not propaganda but hard-headed business with a strict profit motive. By the very nature of the financial operations, it is of great potential interest to the developing world.

The Islamic Investment Co. has already become involved in diverse projects from land reclamation in Sudan to the purchase of reefer ships. The aim is to place investors' funds in the widest possible spread of economic activities on a wide geographical basis.

The company does not put its funds into infrastructural development projects, which have long-term economic utility for a country

(Continued on Page 15S)

OPEC-Western Movement Of Capital Is Improving

By Johnny Rizq

THE ATTITUDE of the International Monetary Fund to the Arab oil-exporting countries has undergone a fundamental change since the first oil price rises of 1973.

Countries that were then painted as villains responsible for world economic disorder are today accepted as important members of the international financial community. Of course, major Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries dollar surpluses are still with us — matched by current-account deficits in the non-oil developing countries and, to a lesser extent, in the industrialized West. But the severe bottlenecks in capital movements in the mid-1970s have given way to a relatively smooth recycling process, described in the latest annual IMF report as reassuring.

Much of the credit for this improvement must go to the international banks and financial institutions that have adapted well to the need for large-scale international lending. More recently, the IMF itself has shown a desire to enlarge its role and play

KUWAIT

Al-Hamad Appointment Puts Force Behind Bid To Dominate Gulf, Reduce Dependency on Oil

By Shakib Otaqui

KUWAIT'S ambition to become the Gulf's major financial market — and at the same time reduce its dependence on oil revenues — received a hefty boost with the appointment in March of Abdel-Latif Yousef al-Hamad as finance and planning minister.

In his 19 years as head of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, Mr. al-Hamad established an enviable reputation for hard-headed realism in evaluating aid projects, combined with an efficiency and lack of bureaucracy that has made the fund a favorite with borrowers. In his new job, he remains committed to maintaining Kuwait's traditional free-enterprise economy and encouraging the development of the financial markets by the private sector. But he will doubtless be ruthless with institutions that pursue their short-term interests at the expense of Kuwait's longer-term strategies.

Mr. al-Hamad has been careful not to commit himself to specifics. In several interviews since his appointment, he has repeatedly said that he was too new in the job to offer detailed statements. But his impact on the financial markets has already been dramatic.

Trading on Kuwait's budding stock exchange has boomed, with turnover exceeding 1 billion Kuwaiti dinars in the first half of this year — almost equaling the 1980 total of 1.3 billion. It seems likely that by the end of the year turnover will beat the 1979 record of 1.8 billion dinars.

Bond Market

The Kuwaiti dinar bond market has been revived and is likely to become an increasingly important source of finance to supplement the Euromarkets. Interest rates are lower than those on dollar loans, while the government-engineered stability of the dinar's exchange rate lessens the risk to borrowers from rate fluctuations.

Domestic liquidity has increased steadily throughout the year, bringing an element of stability to the financial markets after two years of periodic liquidity crises. This has been achieved by a combination of government pumping and a tough policy of deterring local banks and other institutions from draining the local market by transferring funds abroad.

This has been mainly aimed at

Kuwait's major rival for financial dominance in the Gulf: Bahrain. Kuwaiti banks had got into the habit of placing funds with offshore banking units (OBUs) in Bahrain, taking advantage of interest rates on dollar deposits almost double the 10-percent maximum fixed by Kuwaiti law. This drain has been virtually eliminated.

The Central Bank of Kuwait has been notably tough in threatening to withdraw "swap" facilities from offending banks. In addition, foreign deposits are not considered liquid assets for reserve-ratio purposes, which makes them less attractive.

Nevertheless, the 10-percent interest ceiling remains something of a hindrance in developing the financial markets. The two bond issues that recently reopened the Kuwaiti dinar market adhered to the ceiling but had to be priced at a discount to yield 11 percent to 11.5 percent. Similarly, commercial bank loans to local borrowers are usually loaded with front-end fees to give them a reasonable yield above rates the banks have to pay to attract deposits.

Interest Rates

Mr. al-Hamad has not committed himself on the subject of interest rates, but it will prove difficult to greatly raise the ceiling. This would have an inflationary impact on the economy, while making it more difficult to reconcile the financial system with the Islamic ban on usury. So the problem of retaining funds in Kuwait will remain as long as foreign-exchange movements combine free of control and investors find more attractive yields abroad.

This lies behind Mr. al-Hamad's recent cautious but steady exposure of the dinar to the workings of world financial markets. He has found it necessary to provide alternative outlets for rich Kuwaitis' appetite for financial investment. As well as reopening the dinar bond market, he permitted a precedent-setting loan to Yugoslavia, which for the first time was denominated partly in Kuwaiti dinars.

When the \$250-million loan was syndicated in June, Kuwaiti interest rates were half those payable on Eurodollar deposits, making it particularly attractive for the hard-pressed Yugoslavs. Mr. al-Hamad then commented that he would allow more such loans "to our

friends, such as Yugoslavia," indicating that political considerations were perhaps as important as financial ones. Whatever the reasons, the move represented another step toward removing the dinar's insulation from world markets.

Playground

The Yugoslav loan was co-led-managed by the three Ks — Kuwait International Investment Co., Kuwait Investment Co. and Kuwait Foreign Trading Contracting & Investment Co. All are active both in the Kuwaiti dinar market and in the Euromarkets abroad, mostly specializing in bond issues. The first is privately-owned, while the government holds 50 percent and 80 percent of the other two, respectively. Within Kuwait they are backed by the Arab Company for Trading Securities, which is the market-maker for the dinar bond secondary market.

The stock market is not so well-served and has been described as "something of a playground for a relatively small but extremely wealthy group of Kuwaiti investors." It has been a speculator's paradise, with investors more concerned with quick capital gains than with the general welfare of the market. Indeed, most companies used to be floated with little more than riding the speculative bandwagon.

Steps have been taken to professionalize the stock market, perhaps best exemplified by the magnificently exchange building under construction at a cost of more than \$40 million. To control speculation, the government first banned the floating of new Gulf companies — firms registered in other Gulf countries whose main purpose is to supply shares to the Kuwaiti public. More recently, a ban on the trading in Kuwait of shares of companies formed abroad was announced in July.

To compensate, the government has decided to allow the listing on the exchange of properly constituted Gulf companies, and to allow the listing of previously closed local companies. More importantly, permission was granted in August for the formation of a share-trading company with a capital of 50 million Kuwaiti dinars. More such companies are likely to be licensed by the end of the year.

LEBANON

System Proves Its Resiliency Despite War, Economic Problems

By John Roberts

THERE WAS a time when Beirut was the undisputed champion of the Arab banking world. Although Bahrain has probably taken that title, even a cursory look at the Beirut banking scene shows that the Lebanese capital is still a good place to do business.

By the end of 1980, bank deposits in the 80 commercial banks in Lebanon totaled 27,303 billion Lebanese pounds, of which 24,824 billion was from private sector deposits.

According to the Banque du Liban, the central bank, private sector deposits rose an impressive 20 percent a year between the end of 1974, the last year of normality in Lebanon, and the end of 1980. Even if the decline of the Lebanese pound against the dollar is taken into account and growth is calculated in dollar terms, it averages 11.1 percent a year. There is no shortage of money in Lebanon, despite the financial crisis engrossing the new government, and liquidity levels in the private banks remain high. Trade is flourishing and the banks help to finance trade. It is industrial activity that is declining.

Several foreign banks are thus faced with the possibility that they might lose money on their Beirut operations. But there are distinct differences between the foreign banks. In general, the British and U.S. banks are seen to be suffering from a decline in the real value of total assets, whereas those of the French banks are rising (the British Bank of the Middle East, a

subsidiary of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, is a notable exception).

Declining Deposits

Banks that showed declines in their deposits in 1980 included Al-Mashrik Bank, Arab-Libyan Tunisian Bank, Moscow Narodny Bank, Bank of Kuwait and the Arab World, Near East Bank and Toronto Dominion Bank. Chemical Bank (Middle East) registered zero growth, while Chartered Bank's growth in deposits was eclipsed by the rate of inflation.

During the civil war the banks had to close twice — between December, 1975, and February, 1976, and between March, 1976, and January, 1977. More than one-third of the 72 offices and branches of foreign banks operating in the country were destroyed or damaged. Even today, the heart of Beirut's former banking district displays the bombed-out remains of some branches, although others have restored their facades and reopened.

The civil war, if anything, gave ordinary Lebanese increased confidence in their banking system. After the collapse of the Intra Bank in 1966, there was a flood of money into the foreign banks operating in Beirut. In 1969, only 23 percent of bank deposits were lodged with Lebanese banks. But the temporary withdrawal during the war of some well-established foreign banks, notably Japanese ones, resulted in local banks holding 42 percent of total deposits in 1978. The share held by foreign (non-Arab) banks declined be-

tween 1969 and 1978 from 40 percent to 12 percent.

Since then, the foreign banks have improved their position, but at the expense of Lebanese banks under foreign control and of Arab banks rather than of purely Lebanese banks. Moreover, foreign banks are again cutting back their operations. Canada's Toronto Dominion Bank has pulled out altogether, while in 1980 Chase Manhattan cut back its staff, a step that Bank of America took early in 1981.

Richard Gilgan, the manager of the First National Bank of Chicago branch in Beirut, said that the U.S. banks were doing their best to maintain their presence without increasing their expenses. In particular, he said, the problem was one of stable to declining income against rising expenses.

The optimism that accompanied the formal end of the civil war in November, 1976, has been tempered by the realization that Lebanon is in the middle of a prolonged period of no war, no peace. The divisions in the country have affected banking operations. The mushrooming of bank branches that has been characteristic of the local banking scene turns out to reflect not so much the growth in business as the increasing division of the nation.

Yet the banking system has shown considerable resilience in coming to terms with a security situation that would be intolerable in other business-oriented countries. Basic services are maintained in the most trying of circumstances.

Customer nervousness about the state of the country has led to a continuing growth of on-call deposits, making banking operations more dependent on the political and security climate. Moreover, the government's need to ensure that as few private companies go bankrupt as possible has led it to pass laws that make it virtually impossible for the banks to force even long-standing debtors to settle their accounts.

What has ensured the banking system's survival has been the country's laissez-faire economic system. With government interference virtually removed, trade has flourished as never before. But it is unregulated trade, and its profits would be deposited with the banks were it not for the strict secrecy of accounts. Moreover, while the civil war and subsequent years of unrest have increased emigration, this in turn has led to an increase in the flow of remittances from abroad.

The chief characteristic of the banking scene remains its flexibility, its ability to surmount obstacles. When telecommunications are down, couriers shuttle to London, Paris and Cyprus. The range of services remains impressive. Accounts may easily be opened in any of the major foreign currencies and in several of the more obscure. Indeed, since 1974 there has been a 230-percent increase in foreign-exchange deposits, against a 131-percent increase in local-currency deposits. By the end of 1980, roughly 37 percent of deposits were dominated in non-Lebanese currencies.

GIB Activity, Profits Rise

(Continued from Page 7S)

South American, and Asian commercial banks.

The last year has seen the start of a new wave in consortium banking. The Kuwait and Asian Bank was set up in 1980, while in April, 1981, the United Gulf Bank was established in Bahrain, on an offshore basis, to participate in the Euromarkets.

Both banks have shareholders in common, notably the Kuwait International Investment Company and four insurance firms: Kuwait Insurance Company, Warba Insurance Company, National Insurance Company and Gulf Insurance Company. As with most banking developments in the Arab world, their performance will be watched closely, both by bankers and commercial companies seeking to take advantage of Bahrain's offshore facilities.

A Look at the Arab Investor: What's He Doing and Where's He Going?

(Continued from Page 7S)

any investor how to wants to invest his surplus monies; and you would expect the answer of at least \$40 million. To control speculation, the government first banned the floating of new Gulf companies — firms registered in other Gulf countries whose main purpose is to supply shares to the Kuwaiti public. More recently, a ban on the trading in Kuwait of shares of companies formed abroad was announced in July.

A look today at a number of selected and fairly representative portfolios of Arab investors shows that more than half the portfolio is in U.S. bonds or bonds or stocks. With the increase in sophistication and better management, the Arab investor will soon be moving away from portfolio investments.

The rest of the portfolio is mostly in commodities. This type of investment became very popular among Arab investors when the metal markets (particularly silver) rose sharply last year. Most of the investors were obviously disappointed with the ending of the price rise. They kept their positions, however, hoping for a future recovery. During the next boom in the commodities market, there will be a number of Arab investors in the front row, but much wiser and more careful.

Three-month deposits for years, still wary about being liquid enough to take advantage of the excellent opportunity that is going to occur in the very near future.

Bonds and stocks today constitute about a quarter of the portfolio of the average Arab investor.

The proportion is probably higher than they wish, but they don't want to suffer losses on some low-coupon bonds they have, or lose money on some of the glamorous stocks they bought that turned out to be so glamorous.

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Another advantage of real estate is its visibility and its ease of identification. It is a lot easier to show your friends a prestigious building in Houston than a forward contract in copper or a dollar bond for a well-known borrower.

The amounts invested in real estate in the West have been relatively large. Investors usually started by buying a house for themselves and their families, thus learning about that particular market. Then

they typically bought a large piece of property and compared it with the purchases of friends, who were doing the same in other cities. Slowly the investor got to know the brokerage channels and was able to identify "good buys," a concept very important to the Arab investor.

Once you have determined the rules of good location, judging the value of a piece of real estate is relatively easy. Investors who have never heard of the cash-on-cash investment criteria, have picked up some of the nicest real estate deals.

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The next step was to look for growth areas, i.e., places where capital gains were possible over a relatively short period of time.

Friends got together to pool funds and talk about diversifying geographically and by type of real estate.

By then, they had acquired enough knowledge to become sophisticated investors, although not by Western standards. Real estate will continue to be favored in the near future, but a much larger proportion will be invested outside the West and development will be preferred to already-finished buildings.

The Arab investor has equity money and is willing to take a development risk.

Roger Azar is president of Azar S.A., Paris.

With direct investments, real es-

tate is the area the Arab investor

knows well. A large proportion of

fortunes in the Arab world are

based on real estate. It is a hedge

against inflation and can be

bought in periods of recession and

is sure to appreciate in times of

prosperity. For Arab investors that

have the staying power, it repre-

sents an ideal long-term invest-

ment.

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to identify "good buys," a concept

in the ARAB WORLD

SAUDI ARABIA Kingdom's Market Continues to Grow at 30% Annual Rate

By Edmund O'Sullivan

THE SAUDI banking market continues to grow rapidly, reflecting double-digit economic growth and rising demands for banking services by the Saudi people.

Total bank assets on June 2, 1981, stood at 95 billion riyals, more than 7 percent above the level three months earlier. This suggests that banking continues to grow at about 30 percent a year.

Impressive as this figure is, it largely underestimates the size of the market for banking services in the kingdom, because it excludes business on the books of Saudi money changers — possibly about 25 percent of bank assets — and the role of banks based in Bahrain, Emirati and North America that service the kingdom offshore.

Saudi-based banks fall into several categories. The first comprises the wholly-owned Saudi commercial

banks: National Commercial Bank (NCB) and Riyad Bank, both based in Jidda. The NCB, founded in 1938, is the largest, with a total of about 12,245 million riyals on its books at the end of 1980. It has more than 100 branches in Saudi Arabia and an offshore banking unit (OBU) in Bahrain.

One of Largest

Founded two and a half years ago, the OBU has become one of Bahrain's largest operations because of its heavy participation in retail deposit markets. The NCB is considering expanding its international network and has opened representative offices in London, Singapore and Seoul. These may eventually become full foreign branches. But the bank's present concern is the rapidly growing domestic market.

Riyad Bank — the kingdom's second-largest and second-oldest commercial banking operation —

is generally considered more conservative than the NCB. Nevertheless, it has benefited from the buoyancy of the non-oil sector of the economy, and recorded a 60-percent rise in assets in the 1980-1981 fiscal year, which ended in May, 1981.

Riyad Bank, which celebrates its 25th year of doing business in 1982, is 38-percent owned by the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA). This may explain why the bank handles the needs of some of the kingdom's largest public enterprises, including the state-owned oil and gas company Petromin, Saudi and the pension funds.

Riyad has made a major foray into international banking through its 60-percent stake in Gulf Riyad Bank, another Bahrain-based OBU. The rest of the bank's shares are held by France's Credit Lyonnais. Like NCB, Riyad is focusing on the domestic scene for the im-

mediate future. It hopes to open 48 branches in the next two years, bringing the number of branches to 127. Computerization is helping provide better services to customers in the home market.

Lagging behind these two giants

are the newly "Saudized" banks — Riyad's Saudi American Bank (Formerly Citibank); Al-Bank al-Saudi al-Franse (formerly Banque de l'Indochine et de Suez); Al-Bank al-Saudi al-Hollande (Algemeene Bank Nederland); Arab National Bank (Jordan's Arab Bank); Bank al-Jazira (state-owned National Bank of Pakistan); Saudi British Bank (British Bank of the Hong Kong Shanghai Banking Corp.); and Saudi Cairo (Banque du Caire, Egypt).

Saudi American

Saudi American is probably the largest, having inherited Citibank's

active presence in rival deposit markets. Assets increased nearly 1 billion riyals between Saudi American's inauguration in July, 1980, and the end of December, 1980 — a rise of about 13 percent.

With the establishment of Saudi American, the first phase of "Saudization" was complete. This involved local investors acquiring majority shares of major foreign-owned banking operations in the kingdom. The formula, applied between 1975 and 1980, was for foreign ownership to be cut to 40 percent, with one exception: Bank al-Jazira, the first bank to be "Saudized," now 35-percent owned by the National Bank of Pakistan.

Three foreign-owned branches continue to operate, although they are too small to have a great impact. They are Bank Meli Iran, Banque du Liban et d'Outre-Mer and Pakistan's United Bank. SAMA wants them to "Saudize" themselves eventually, although final plans have not been drafted.

Finally, there is the Saudi Investment Banking Corp. (SIBC), founded in Riyadh in 1977. Its priorities are finding projects in the kingdom where local funds can be invested.

Making Progress

Finding investments has been more of a challenge than many expected. But bank executives say that they are making progress, which they expect will continue as the Saudi business community matures. SIBC's biggest single syndication so far was a combined 240-million-rial loan and 334-million-rial package for the Riyadh-based Saudi Agriculture and Dairy Co. this summer.

Like the other 12 banks, SIBC is a member of the Jidda, Riyadh and Dammam clearinghouses, although it does not accept personal deposit business.

The issues confronting the banking system are meeting the demand for personal banking services throughout the kingdom, fending off the competition from well-established offshore banks, and growing without breaching SAMA's tight controls on bank capital, lending and deposit-taking.

Signs that the domestic banks still cannot match the know-how and capacity of offshore banks is evident with the continued flow of major syndications to Bahrain, particularly for off-balance-sheet bank guarantees for construction companies working in the kingdom. Nevertheless, many analysts agree that non-Saudi banks will be slowly squeezed out of the kingdom.

MOROCCO

By Michael Frost

THE NEXT five years will be a testing time for the managers of Morocco's economy as they steer through a development plan to overcome serious economic imbalances while at the same time easing the social disparities that led to rioting in Casablanca in June.

The main aims of the 111-billion-dirham 1981-1985 plan — to be published this autumn — are to curb imports of fuel and food, to boost exports and to review industrial investment. But the plan looks like it is getting off to a bad start.

The trade deficit increased sharply in the first half of 1981, with imports rising by almost 29 percent and exports by only 15 percent compared with the first six months of 1980. Stringent conservation measures succeeded in holding down the cost of crude oil, the major import, in 1980, but costs in the first half of 1981 again soared to 2,746 billion dirhams from 2,082 billion in January-June, 1980. Oil imports now seem likely to reach at least 5 billion dirhams in 1981, from 3,961 billion in 1980.

Given the need for energy to fuel industrial expansion, a medium-term reduction in the oil bill will depend on the success of the \$38 million to be spent on oil and gas exploration during the 1981-1985 plan. Longer-term improvements hinge on a program of investment in nuclear energy and oil shale, which are planned to meet 51 percent and 19 percent, respectively, of energy needs by the year 2000. But these goals are tenuous because large-scale production of energy from these sources will not start until at least the early 1990s.

Food Imports

The second factor contributing to 1981's poor trade performance is the continuing heavy reliance on food imports, which totaled 2,461 billion dirhams in the first six months of this year — 43 percent higher than in the same period last year.

The government's management of agriculture was one of the areas singled out for criticism in a World Bank report prepared earlier this year. Agriculture accounts for only about 17 percent of gross domestic production of about \$16 billion a year. Output has grown by about 2 percent a year since independence in 1956, a very low rate for a country so rich in water and manpower.

The stagnation of the agricultural sector is the main obstacle to economic growth, the World Bank report said. The concentration of

Ambitious New Economic Plan Hindered By Early Imbalance in Imports, Exports

government credit in fruit and vegetable exports has hindered investment in industry and in farm production for local consumption.

Despite these severe trade difficulties, Morocco has been able to improve its payments position, largely because of major support from Western allies and from the conservative Arab states — particularly Saudi Arabia. The 1980 balance-of-payments deficit of 117.2 million dirhams was slightly lower than 1979's 125.9 million, while the current-account deficit fell to 5,588 billion from 5,968 billion.

IMF Credit

Much of the current-account deficit was covered by public borrowing and the first part of the \$1.1-billion International Monetary Fund credit announced in October, 1980, and restructured in Morocco's favor in early 1981. Borrowing in 1980 totaled 7.1 billion dirhams, primarily from Arab countries (2,753 billion dirhams), the capital markets (2,678 billion), France (668 million), the World Bank (279 million) and the United States (276 million). The price for this reliance on credit was an increase in external public debt servicing to 4.2 billion dirhams in 1980 from 3.14 billion in 1979. About 2.17 billion dirhams of the 1980 total was interest, up from 1.52 billion in 1979. By the end of 1980, the external debt was estimated to total \$7 billion and the service ratio to be running at more than 20 percent.

Government spokesmen say that they hope to restrict borrowing on the Euromarket during the 1981-1985 plan to a total of \$1 billion, but Western bankers estimate that the international markets will be asked to provide at least \$600 million a year. It therefore seems inevitable that the foreign debt will be an increasing burden. An additional strain will be imposed beginning in 1983, when repayment of the 10-year IMF loan — its second-largest to a developing country — will fall due. The government will also come under increasing pressure to reach a political settlement in the Western Sahara war against the Polisario, officially estimated to be costing \$3 million a day.

Signs that Morocco is losing some of its appeal for longer-term money appeared toward the end of 1980, when the Office Chérifien des Phosphates had to settle for a \$170-million state-guaranteed syndication at a split of 1.17 percent above Libor — a smaller sum and at less favorable terms than the government had hoped for.

Role of Saudi Monetary Agency Is Likely to Expand

By Edmund O'Sullivan

in fiscal 1982-1983, SAMA officials estimate.

Nevertheless, these figures — which are considered an underestimate — will mean a further major rise in SAMA's responsibilities and foreign investment portfolio. This is why the world's investment banking community is beating a path to the door of SAMA's government, Abdell Aziz al-Qurashi.

Conservative Strategy

Many have returned home empty-handed because SAMA pursues a generally conservative investment strategy and is not easily persuaded to change course. According to financial sources, it has concentrated on placing funds with foreign governments, favoring oil deficit countries such as Japan and West Germany. Signs of willingness to diversify have emerged with unconfirmed reports that the agency plans to open a \$1-billion Japanese equity plan.

The result was a further major increase in SAMA's foreign assets. By the middle of fiscal 1980-1981, they had risen to about \$84 billion, against \$66.7 billion six months earlier, financial sources say. Plans for a 45-percent increase in public spending in fiscal 1981-1982 — to stimulate further non-oil gross domestic product growth and imports — should lead to a major reduction in the trade surplus. Assuming that oil production averages 9.25 million barrels a day, the surplus would fall to about \$2.8 billion in 1981-1982 and \$10 billion

Strict Regulations

To ensure that the aggregates do not start exploding — as they did during the first great Saudi boom in the mid-1970s — SAMA imposes strict regulations on domestic banking, including a 7-percent reserve requirement on demand, savings and time deposits, a 15-to-1 ceiling on the deposit-to-capital ratio, and a liquid-asset-to-deposit ratio of 25 percent. Lending to a single borrower will not exceed 25 percent of bank capital and reserves.

The lack of regulation of the money changers — notably the Al-Rajhi Company for Currency Exchange and Commerce — is a further irritant. SAMA says that they are not banks but the concessions in the banking community, within Saudi Arabia and offshore, is that the money changers are full participants in the kingdom's financial markets.

Others argue that SAMA's rules are just what banking needs at this stage, when Saudi Arabia's booming economy could encourage local banks to over-commit themselves.

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 Shareholding: 65% Saudi National 35% National Bank of Pakistan

Banque de la Méditerranée-France, sa.

Balance Sheet 1980

Assets	1980	1979
CASH AND DUE FROM BANKS	406,588	245,976
TIME DEPOSITS WITH BANKS	327,456	318,276
SECURITIES	7,438	3,493
LOANS TO CUSTOMERS	805,135	827,957
CUSTOMERS' COLLECTION ITEMS	7,877	3,297
PREPAID AND OTHER ASSETS	15,056	13,850
INVESTMENTS	140	6,504
BANK FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT	7,156	8,227
Total Assets	1,578,857	1,197,580

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 Bank", Philadelphia)
 Mr. Osmane Aidi
 Sheikha Lubna Fahed Al-Sabah
 Mr. Klaus Haude
 Mr. Alain Pauwels

General Manager
 Mr. Youssef Dib Beylouri

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 Tel. 970 984 BAMEF

Auditors
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 Cannes 06400
 Tel. 970 984 BAMEF

Compte d'Opérations Banque de la Méditerranée-France, sa.

Balance Sheet 1980

Assets	1980	1979
CASH AND DUE FROM BANKS	133,871	67,534
TIME DEPOSITS WITH BANKS	69,048	40,195
SECURITIES	7,156	—
LOANS TO CUSTOMERS	244,228	188,011
CUSTOMERS' COLLECTION ITEMS	3,895	10,825
PREPAID AND OTHER ASSETS	8,372	6,355
INVESTMENTS	21,410	27,994
BANK FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT	4,906	4,830
Total Assets	492,985	341,235

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SYRIA Government Maintains Effective Control of System

By John Roberts

BANKING in Syria is almost exclusively a state-run affair. The only general exceptions are the services provided by money changers in the streets and bazaars of the country's towns and cities.

In the nationalization decrees of 1961 and 1963, the government took control of non-Syrian banks' operations to make the country's monetary policy more efficient and more amenable to central planning needs. Now that economic liberalization is fashionable, gradual moves are being made to ease the government's tight control of the system — although the day when foreign banks can operate again widely in Syria is still in the future.

The banking reforms of the 1960s, when the present Baathist regime began stamping its image on the country, placed all commercial banking operations under the auspices of one bank, the Commercial Bank of Syria. The bank now has branches in the major towns and border points, and changes money at the main hotels.

Special services for Syrian customers are mainly handled by four other banks: the Popular Credit Bank, the Real Estate Bank, the Agricultural Cooperatives Bank and the Industrial Bank.

The Commercial Bank handles external trade financing, apart

from defence supplies, but shares trade financing with the Popular Credit Bank. The Real Estate Bank lends to housing cooperatives, hotels, tourist establishments and real estate companies, while the Industrial Bank, as well as providing funds for industrial development, handles demand and time deposits. The Agricultural Cooperatives Bank, which dates back to Ottoman Turkish times, naturally lends funds for agricultural schemes.

Interest Rates

Traditionally, Syria has followed a policy of low interest rates. But the government of Prime Minister Abdel-Rauf al-Kasim has gradually sought to raise interest rates to more realistic levels. In general, interest rates still favor the public sector, with private account holders having to pay between 1 percent and 1.5 percent extra on overdrafts and up to 2.5 percent on loans.

In 1970, the government permitted both Syrians and foreigners to open foreign currency accounts with the Commercial Bank of Syria, using funds generated from outside the country. Foreign trade controls were eased, and private business were given a letter of credit for up to one year, without anyone asking the source of his foreign exchange.

This practice was ended on

April 22, 1981, when Commerce and Industry Minister Mohammad al-Atrash issued new regulations establishing a parallel financial market for use by private sector businessmen. The new measures stated that all private sector importers, apart from those fulfilling government contracts, would first have to place funds in escrow with the Commercial Bank of Syria, or with other recognized Syrian banks. To ensure that these instructions were carried out, government authorization was made mandatory for all imports.

Recent moves to liberalize the banking system have generally been cautious. The Syrian-Jordanian Bank was established at the end of 1979 to act as a commercial bank and to finance joint Syrian-Jordanian projects. The government — the first such joint venture to be undertaken by the authorities — as an experiment, "an open window through which the market economy can function." But it was made clear that the reasons for its establishment were largely political, to help finance trade with Jordan, and that further such ventures would also depend on the right political circumstances.

Meanwhile, the Commercial Bank continues to act as correspondent for many Western and Arab institutions. It has also established branches in Syria's free trade zones, in which businessmen can open accounts using foreign currency and then use them to settle orthodox letters of credit payable on sight.

In general, the government still views banking as an extension of state planning. Perhaps this is not so surprising, as current earnings from the banking sector are estimated in excess of \$1.5 billion (\$255 million) — a figure that should rise considerably as expatriate remittances start to flow in the wake of April's reforms.

U.A.E. New Central Bank Moves to Support National Networks

By Michael Petrie-Ritchie

THE UNITED Arab Emirates is one of the most overbanked countries in the Gulf region. It has 53 banks with a total of 350 branches to serve a population of little more than 1 million.

Several of those banks have experienced liquidity shortages in the last four years and many of them remain alarmingly overextended, with credit-to-deposit ratios averaging 110 percent. This is the apparent result of years of ineffective control at the national level.

That situation is finally changing. At the beginning of this year the long-awaited Central Bank was established, replacing the less powerful Currency Board. The bank has lost little time in flexing its muscles.

In July, it ordered nine foreign banks to close a total of 89 branches by 1984, and ruled that no foreign bank will be allowed more than eight branches. One of the banks affected was the British Bank of the Middle East, which had 30 branches.

The Central Bank had made it clear that it disapproved of the discrepancy between the number of foreign banks with branches in the

Emirates and the small number of national banks with overseas branches. In a gesture of support for national banks, it relaxed a 1977 ban on the opening of new branches and allowed some local banks to expand their networks. It is also encouraging recapitalization or mergers of banks to try to reduce the number of small national banks, many of which were established in the early 1970s. It

Reserve Requirement

In a move aimed at dealing with the squeeze on liquidity — caused by the flow of funds to foreign institutions paying higher interest rates than the fixed, artificially low U.A.E. rates — the bank has imposed a 15-percent reserve requirement on U.A.E. banks' dirham lending overseas. The regulation has increased the cost of dirham funds to Bahrain, the main offshore market, by about 2.5 percent, and has reduced the outflow.

In the domestic market, the Central Bank has favored a more even distribution of lending. Its greatly increased powers enable it to scrutinize more closely the domestic banks' credit ratios and ensure that they follow the December 1980 law that forbids banks to lend more than 20 percent of their deposits for property development.

The agency has lost little time in flexing its muscle.

has fixed a minimum capital level of 40 million dirhams and requires that 10 percent of net profits be paid into a special reserve until it reaches 50 percent of the bank's capital.

The Central Bank has taken a similar line with the numerous investment companies. Beginning

next year, investment companies will have to have a minimum capital of 50 million dirhams and be at least 70-percent-owned by U.A.E.

opment. Overlending to the construction sector resulted in a crisis in 1977 when it became evident by law from setting up investment companies in their own countries. The bank has blamed the lack of genuine investment institutions as a major cause of the rudimentary state of the U.A.E.'s capital and money markets.

One of the greatest problems facing the Central Bank is how to allay the widespread concern in the banking community at attempts by a local borrower to avoid interest payments on the ground that they contravene the Islamic ban on usury. A member of the Dubai ruling family who borrowed \$16 million to finance construction of the gold souk (market) in Dubai is said to have found subsequently that the returns on his investment were inadequate to meet the interest payments.

The lenders, a six-bank syndicate led by National Bank of Abu Dhabi, received a favorable judgment in the British courts but are waiting to see if proceedings will be initiated in the U.A.E. The Central Bank has kept a low profile in the dispute, except to reassure bankers that such cases would be heard in the civil and not the religious courts.

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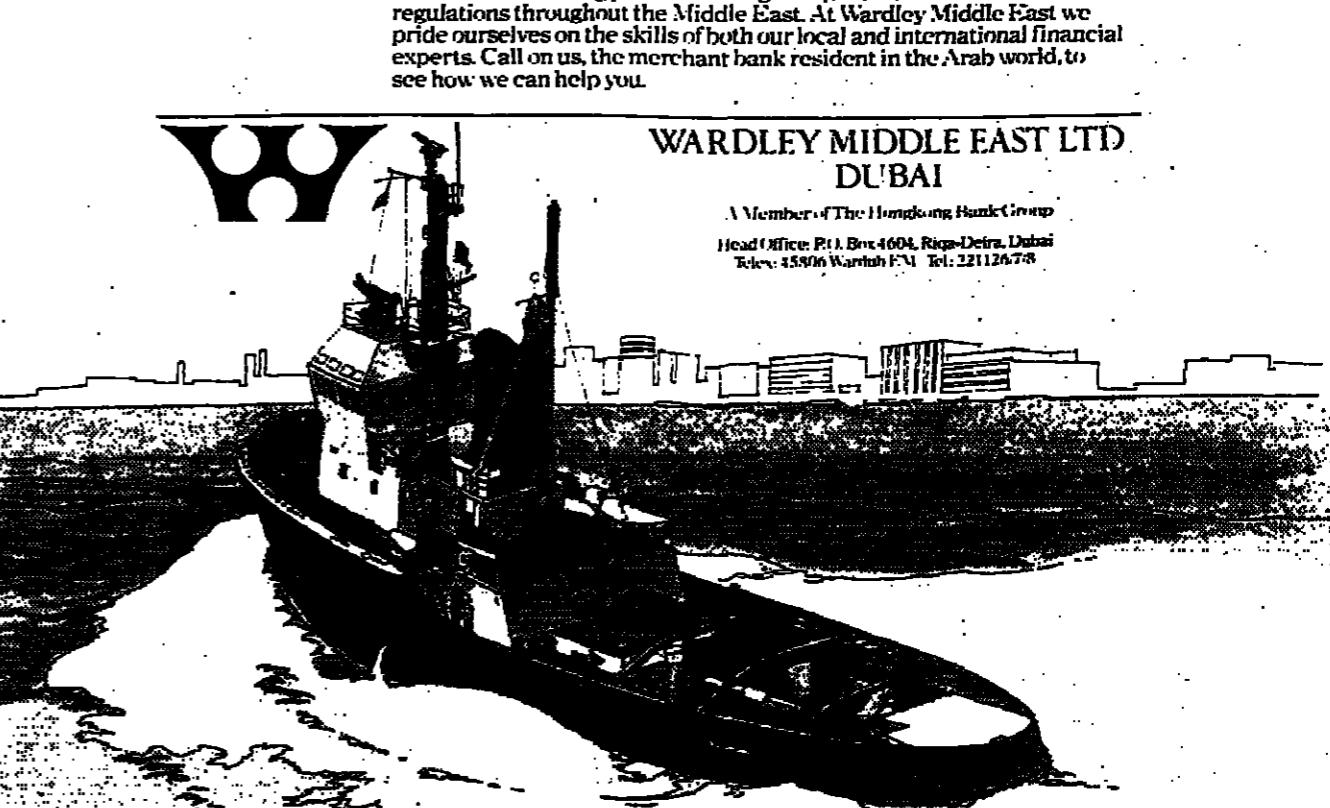
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in the ARAB WORLD

TUNISIA

Favorable Standing In World Markets

By Michael Frost

OFFICIALS of Banque Centrale de Tunisie (BCT) expect to get favorable margins from the international money market to finance the forthcoming 1982-86 sixth development plan. Commercial banks, which have cut sharply, they say, as the country's steady development increasingly restricts its eligibility for aid and concessionary lines of credit.

State borrowing on the commercial market totaled only \$100 million in 1977 and \$150 million in 1978. And the increasing value of oil, which has risen 50 percent since 1973, has covered the state deficit, while earnings from sales of energy products — which account for about 30 percent of all exports — rose to \$1.472 million in 1980 from \$1.335 million in 1979. The consequent lack of borrowing enabled the debt ratio to be brought down slightly from 11.5 percent in 1978 to 10.4 percent in 1979 and 10.5 percent in 1980. The ratio is expected to pick up again to about 12 percent by the end of 1981, and to rise further as borrowing increases.

Debt Profile

The healthy debt profile, along with an increasingly liberal political climate, are reflected in Tunisia's favorable standing in the eyes of Western commercial bankers.

At the beginning of 1981 Compagnie Financière Immobilière et Tunisienne (Cofit) was able to raise \$25 million for seven years at one-half of 1 percent above Libor — a very low spread for a developing country. Lead managers were Frab, Bank International and Banque Arabe et Internationale d'Investissement.

Much of the new investment for the 1982-86 plan will be financed by the joint banks in the process of being formed with Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Algeria, and with France and Arab interests, including Qatar. A further development bank is to be formed by merging Banque de Développement Economique de Tunisie (BDET), Cofit and Société d'Investissement Arabe de Tunisie. Like the other joint banks, and in contrast to the Tunisian commercial banks, it will

be healthily capitalized at TD 100 million. BDET officials say Oman, Qatar and the U.A.E. have expressed interest in participating.

The undercapitalization of the commercial banks, which has made it difficult for them to do business in the interbank market, is just one of the problems that Premier Mohamed Mzali and Planning and Finance Minister Mansour Molla are expected to tackle if they retain their posts after the legislative elections to be held in November.

Tight controls imposed by BCT on the 12 Tunisian-controlled commercial banks include a total ban on foreign exchange dealing.

Overseas correspondents can be chosen only from those banks with which BCT does business. Such measures severely limit the banks' profitability.

Mr. Mzali, a proven liberal, and Mr. Molla, a respected banker with experience at BCT and Banque Internationale Arabe de Tunisie — formerly a branch of the British Bank of the Middle East — are known to be in favor of considerable liberalization of the economy.

Western bankers say they are likely to allow commercial banks to handle at least some of their own foreign exchange dealing and to retain some of the foreign exchange earnings that they now surrender to BCT against reimbursement in local currency. There may also be some relaxation of sectoral regulations to give banks a freer hand in deciding who they lend to.

Tunisia's offshore banking sector, too, has suffered from unusually tight government controls. Four offshore banking units (OBUs) — Citibank, Bank of America, National Bank of Abu Dhabi and the Paris-based Union Tunisienne de Banques — have been set up under the 1976 offshore banking law, primarily to service the offshore manufacturing sector established in 1974.

Opportunities for the OBUs have been limited by the tight margins available to Tunisian borrowers on the Eurodollar market, and by unexpectedly high revenues from oil and national savings. Savings financed 80 percent of investment in the 1977-81 fifth plan, 15 percent more than initially foreseen.

One of Tunisia's main attractions as an offshore center has been the easy access it affords to Libya, but this may not be enough to offset the lack of business in Tunisia. While conceding that at least one of the OBUs — Bank of America

— has been "examining its future," BCT officials say they are confident that future credit needs will, at worst, sustain the offshore sector at its present size. International bankers in London, however, are pessimistic about the sector's future and say that at least two of the OBUs are "winding down their operations."

Prospects for the OBUs should become clearer as a result of legislation that was to have been introduced earlier in 1981, but is now not likely to be passed before the November elections. The government is considering allowing offshore export manufacturers to borrow from locally based banks — particularly the joint-investment

LIBYA Resisting Pressure to Cut Oil Prices

IN TYPICALLY resolute fashion, Libya is determined to reject pressure for a lowering of its oil price, despite the threat that this could leave it with a serious cash-flow problem.

The stakes are high. As an OPEC hard-liner, Libya is loath to give way on the issue. But it also needs the funds to fulfill its \$62.5-billion development plan for 1981-85.

Demand is low for \$40-a-barrel oil — exports have dropped to less than half the early 1981 levels and revenues for the year are unlikely to exceed \$15 billion. This compares with 1980 oil earnings of more than \$20 billion.

Despite reports that Libya has been pressuring foreign contractors to accept oil instead of cash as partial payment for contracts, Libyan financiers are confident that the country can ease itself out of a cash shortage. It would have little difficulty in raising money in either the international or domestic markets and has substantial reserves. Its foreign reserves alone are estimated to exceed \$14 billion.

High Liquidity

Libya's five commercial banks have an extraordinarily high liquidity, with an average deposits-to-advances ratio of about 50 percent. Information on the banks' performance is hard to come by because they are audited by an overworked and understaffed state audit department. According to Libyan bank sources, however, the five banks are flourishing and one made profits of \$67 million.

The biggest domestic bank, National Commercial Bank, recently gave its most recent figures as those for end-1979. Then, the bank's total assets/liabilities were given as \$24 million dinars. Deposits with the bank totalled 421 million dinars. Capitalized at 2.5 million dinars, the bank operates from Tripoli and has 25 branches around the country. It has shares in European Arab Holding of Luxembourg and the Brussels-based European Arab Bank.

Two other banks — Umma Bank and Wanda Bank — have international links. Wanda Bank, headquartered in Benghazi, notably has a shareholding in Banque Arabe Internationale d'Investissement in Paris and Compagnie Arabe et Internationale d'Investissement in Luxembourg.

Correspondent banking relations exist with several countries. These were added to this spring when the Central Bank of Libya and the domestic banks concluded correspondent arrangements with the Korea Exchange Bank. The arrangements are to facilitate export-import settlements with South Korea, whose trade with Libya has grown considerably in recent years.

All Libyan banks were nationalized soon after

the Sept. 1, 1969, revolution that brought Col. Muammar Qaddafi to power. Since then, the Libyan leadership has shown a remarkably pragmatic approach to banking. While revolutionary policies have frequently thrown the rest of the country's economy into chaos, banking and oil, the mainstays of prosperity, have emerged relatively unscathed.

In the state-controlled economy, most bank activities revolve around the numerous state corporations, extending temporary overdrafts and opening letters of credit. Interest rates are fixed at 7 percent for secured loans and 7.5 percent for unsecured loans. Deposits earn a generous 10-percent interest.

The 11 foreign banks operating in Libya have withdrawn following the nationalization of local banks. Most of the foreign banks were British; of these, Barclays Bank was the largest.

Yugoslavia's Jugobanka is the only foreign bank allowed to open branches in Libya, underlining the strong commercial and political links between the two countries. After a July visit this year to Belgrade by senior Libyan aide Abdel Salam Jalloud, Libya agreed to provide Yugoslavia with a seven-year, \$150-million loan to help finance the Eastern European state's expected 1981 balance-of-payments deficit. Libya's overseas banking arm was co-lead manager this year of a \$200-million loan to Banque Nationale de Yugoslavia.

The possibility for the five domestic banks to invest in further joint ventures overseas ended when the Libyan Arab Foreign Bank (LAFB) was set up in 1972. LAFB operates exclusively in the international capital markets and has earned a reputation as one of the leading Arab banks. Capitalized at 25 million dinars, LAFB recorded a 12-percent increase in business in 1979 — up to \$2.585 billion — and a 48-percent rise in profits, from \$31.7 million in 1978 to \$47 million.

LAFB participated in 20 international syndications in 1980, including acting as lead manager for a \$1.5-billion loan to Italy's state-owned Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi (ENI). Italy is a major trading partner, and LAFB's interests there include a 9.09-percent holding of Fiat ordinary shares and a similar percentage of its preferred shares. In 1979, LAFB was lead manager for a \$1-billion syndication for Fiat.

Earlier this year, Libya was reported to be seeking to increase its equity in Italian industry with proposals to take substantial shares in Montedison, a giant chemical group, and a \$400-million takeover of Mario Maraldi, a troubled steel and sugar producer. Libya's direct investments worldwide total about \$2 billion.

— MICHAEL PETRIE-RITCHIE

EGYPT

Trend Toward Increasing Regulation

THE TREND toward greater regulation of banking and financial activity is causing increased concern in Egypt's foreign banking community.

The background to the increased state interference is the campaign led by the deputy premier for financial and economic affairs, Ali Abdel-Razzak Abdel-Meguid, to protect the Egyptian pound and stimulate long-term investment in the country's ambitious development plan for 1981-85.

Egypt has the longest established banking tradition in the Middle East, with six banks ranking in the top 50 Arab banks in terms of deposits.

The traditional financial infrastructure, which had been nationalized during the Nasser years, was transformed by the 1974 open-door policy liberalizing foreign investment. Links with sources of outside hard currency financing were desperately needed at that time.

In the last few years, with rising foreign-currency earnings from oil sales, Suez Canal tolls, cotton and rice sales, the hard-currency shortage has eased considerably.

A continuing problem is domestic liquidity and control of inflation in an economy already artificially structured with government subsidies on a wide range of staple commodities. The difficulties are compounded by a complex three-tier exchange rate system that tolerates almost a separate monetary system known as the "own exchange" market. This operates outside the main banking system and effectively provides a black market offering a 10-percent premium for dollars against local currency compared with the parallel market exchange rate.

Essential Policy

It is an essential part of Mr. Abdel-Meguid's policy to consolidate the Egyptian pound as a unit of value and exchange. The pound was devalued by 20 percent against the dollar on Aug. 1 for all nonofficial transactions, in an attempt to regain some of the foreign exchange that had been flooding into the own exchange market to the detriment of the official banking system since the upsurge of the dollar earlier this year.

A number of factors other than the dollar's strength have contributed to the weakness of the pound. High Eurodollar interest rates caused the government to increase

interest rates on local savings accounts to 10 percent from 8.5 percent in July. This is still well below the 17 percent to 18 percent offered on dollar deposits. The official system has also been affected by large amounts of local bank notes being smuggled out of the country who have used this to buy hard currency. Rumors of higher taxes on luxury goods, which must be purchased with hard currency, have given an increased demand for the foreign currency and pressure on the domestic market.

The Central Bank of Egypt says that the old rate of \$1 to 0.70 Egyptian pounds is to remain for state imports of strategic and basic goods and for the costing of capital projects in the current financial year. Revenues from oil, Suez Canal tolls, cotton and rice sales, will also be exchanged at the old rate. New buying and selling rates of \$1 at 0.83 and 0.84 Egyptian pounds, respectively, affect tourists. Egyptian workers remitting earnings at home and certain categories of exports.

Two committees are being set up. One, consisting of local banks and headed by the Central Bank, is charged with keeping the new exchange rate under review. Western observers say that it could represent the initial moves toward a "crawling peg" exchange rate and in turn lead to the Egyptian pound being pegged to a basket of currencies. The Economic and Financial Affairs Ministry is heading the second committee, which will regulate imports.

Foreign Banks

The foreign banks in Egypt — there are 54 branches and representative offices — are concerned about the implications of the new measures. Before the devaluation, Mr. Abdel-Meguid declared that the banks' licenses would be revoked if they continued to buy foreign currency through black market brokers.

It is also no longer possible for foreign banks to issue letters of credit on first- and second-category imports. Banks were instructed last year to place various deposits with the Central Bank when opening letters of credit. Category one covers basic food items and requires a 25-percent deposit. The second category, covering intermediate and capital goods, spare parts and raw materials calls for 40 percent.

percent, while the third category, including luxury goods, needs a 100-percent deposit.

The original requirement was that deposits be made in hard currency. This still applies to categories one and two, but for categories three and four, which must be made in local currency provided by the banks issuing the letters of credit. This keeps out foreign banks as they are not allowed to deal in Egyptian pounds.

Letters-of-credit business has been a rich source of income for foreign banks even though their Egyptian licenses describe them as investment institutions. High profits with relatively little involvement in development projects by the banks has caused embarrassment. Misr International (Midbank), for example, one of the three largest joint-venture banks, reports that income almost doubled in the year to Dec. 31, 1980.

The foreign banks point out, without justification, that it takes time to establish a knowledge of a country — its investment potential and the credit ratings of firms — and of individuals the banks may do business with.

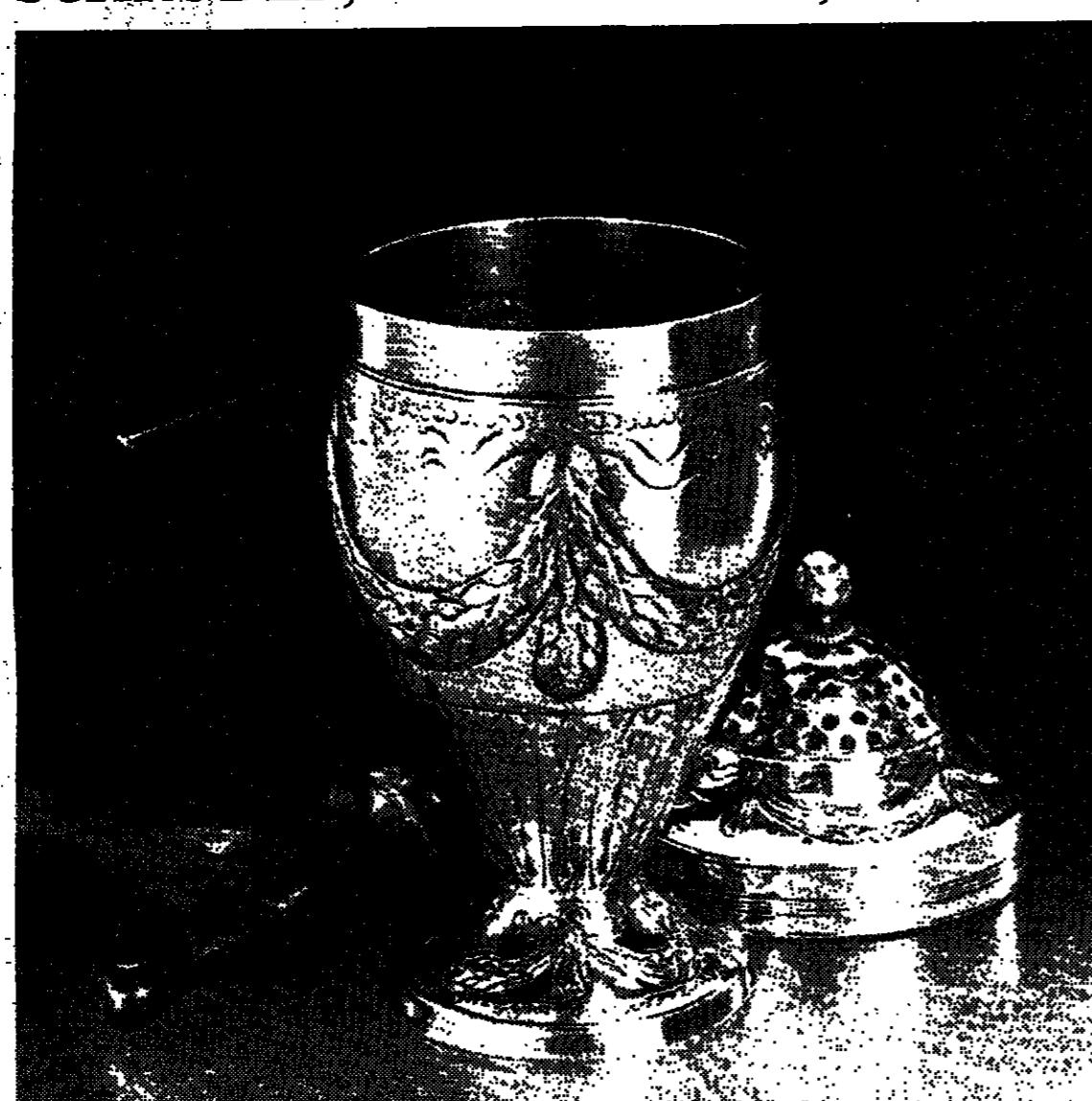
The foreign presence has also brought a more competitive edge in the financial market. The atmosphere has on occasions become abrasive. The chairman of Chase National Bank (the first foreign bank in Egypt after 1974), Ali Dabbous, was quoted earlier this year as saying that a gentleman's agreement between national banks not to seek one another's clients seemed to have broken down.

A number of foreign banks are considering joint ventures with private individuals. One advantage is that such joint ventures could become more involved in domestic banking, particularly in the acceptance of expatriate remittances, which in 1981 are estimated to total \$3 billion. The drawback is that present regulations only allow the bank to close its branch office within two years.

So far, the requirement announced in 1980 that foreign banks deposit 15 percent of their foreign currency holdings with the Central Bank has not been enforced. But the measure has not been rescinded, and each bank is required to make regular statements on its hard-currency holdings.

— ROBERT BAILEY

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BAHRAIN

Signs of Steady Growth Ahead

BANKS WITH full commercial licenses can look forward to a period of steady growth and healthy profits in Bahrain, at least for the first half of the 1980s.

The economy is set to expand at a healthy pace. Real growth is expected to be about 7 percent a year in the first development program (1982-85), which begins on Jan. 1 next year. This should ensure any slack in the labor market will be absorbed, real income will rise and taxes become more sophisticated. All these trends suggest the market for banking services will grow as well.

Local banks can expect a continuing subsidy from the banking authorities, which want to insulate the island's economy from high international interest rates. This subsidy, which helps keep lending rates a half-a-dozen percentage points below free market levels, can be expected to decline but not disappear in coming years.

And the government is continuing to protect locally registered banks from fresh competition. No more new entrants are to be allowed for the foreseeable future, and offshore banks are prevented

from doing business with the island.

Without these guarantees to local banking's future, prospects would be bleak. The island's population is about 360,000 — one-third of whom are expatriates, mainly from the Indian subcontinent. The market is also crowded. A total of 19 banks have full commercial banking licenses issued from the Bahrain Monetary Agency (BMA). In addition, there are two specialist banks — the state-owned Housing Bank, which finances home building at concessionary rates, and the Bahrain Islamic Bank, founded in 1979 by a mixture of private and public sector Gulf investors.

Of the commercial banks, only two can be described as national in the sense that they are fully owned by Bahrainis. The largest is the National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) which was founded in 1957, with a 49-percent government shareholding. The bank has progressed steadily, if conservatively, in the past decade. Total assets rose 40.9 percent in 1980 to BD 297 million (\$700 million) in 1980, while profits climbed 30.8 percent to BD 4.8 million (\$1.4 million). In June, the bank opened an offshore banking

unit (OBU), and immediately managed the first sovereign credit to be finalized on the island. This is the first stage in NBB's move into international banking, says general manager and chief executive Nooruddin Norrudin.

Al-Ahli

The second completely Bahraini operation, the Al-Ahli Commercial Bank, is usually placed third in local banking behind the Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait (BBK). Founded in 1971 by a mixture of Bahraini and Kuwaiti investors, the BBK is considered to be the most innovative local bank. Its willingness to move fast was demonstrated in 1980 when it opened an OBU. Like the NBB, the bank's profits are very satisfactory, rising to BD 2.6 million (\$6.9 million) at the end of June. Assets totaled BD 490.3 million (\$13.3 billion), a rise of 23 percent on the June, 1980, figure.

Only one other bank has a significant local shareholding. This is the Continental Bank, which was founded in 1976 by local investors in a 50-50 partnership with the Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago.

The remainder are the branches of foreign banks, including Chase Manhattan and Citibank, both of the U.S.; a group of European banks and an interesting mixture of Middle East and Indian subcontinent banks. Business for them is good also, but there is an official bias to the locally owned operations, bankers say. "Because they don't have any local participation, they are not going to enjoy the same benefits," says BBK's managing director, Ibrahim Eshac, "except for the ones who are prepared to take the initiative to set up a new joint venture unit."

Strict Environment

Dominating the banking scene is the BMA, which has created a strict, but widely approved, environment for local banking business. Its approach to local banks is based upon good personal contacts, and the BMA governor, Abdallah Saif, says he prefers mutual assistance to a battery of laws as the means to regulate their behavior.

The banks' activities are closely scrutinized on a regular basis. Signs of unhealthy lending ratios are usually dealt with over a cup of coffee with senior officials of offending banks who are gently advised to cut or expand as the BMA sees fit. The formula works well, local bankers say.

The BMA has managed to keep the growth in the principal mon-

Bahrain's Growing Third World Ties

ANOTHER first in Bahrain offshore banking was created in June, 1981, with the signing in Manama of \$50-million credit for the Central Bank of the Philippines.

Lead managers for the only sovereign credit to be finalized so far on the island were the National Bank of Bahrain's offshore banking unit (OBU) — which was opened earlier this year — and Manila-based Allied Banking Corporation's OBU.

This deal should be particularly pleasing to the Bahrain Monetary Agency (BMA). It shows local banks' willingness to expand into international capital markets. It indicates the growing status of Bahrain's offshore banks among less developed country (LDC) borrowers — Philippines Central Bank governor Jaime C. Laya traveled to Bahrain to sign the deal in person. Thirdly, it shows banks from countries not so far represented in Bahrain are prepared to open active offices on the island.

Additional Impetus

The Philippines also gets 60-70% of its oil requirements from Gulf states, which gives additional impetus to Allied's attempts to win deposits. The priority to start is in sovereign risk, says Mr. De Liu. "Then we would look at the private sector in the local market, short term guarantees and that sort of thing."

Mr. De Liu is optimistic about Allied's prospects. "We are a very conservative bank when it comes to it," he says. "I think they [management] will be happy at the end of the year."

— EDMUND O'SULLIVAN

private sector activity on the island. It is also genuinely important to the local economy, says BBK's Eshac. "The domestic banks are important because they play a big role in all sectors of the economy," he says. "The profits of the commercial banks come from participating in all sectors of the economy."

Examples are the revolving rollover credit facilities for the Aluminum Bahrain (Alba) project. Further major challenges are also on the horizon. The Bahrain-registered Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC) plans to raise up to \$250 million to finance its ammonia and methanol project on the island. GPIC's chairman Tawfeeq Almoushey says the local banking community may be asked to participate in a syndication that will be co-ordinated by the BMA. The deal could be similar to the \$300 million loan for the State of Bahrain which was used to pay for the acquisition of 60 percent of the Bahrain Petroleum Company (Bapco) refinery last year. Other new industrial projects on the island — such as the pan-Gulf hydrocracker — may choose to tap local markets in the same way, providing a further reason why Bahrain commercial banking has a bright future.

— EDMUND O'SULLIVAN

Capital Movement

(Continued from Page 75)

tion that in the not-too-distant future the IMF will turn to other OPEC states for financial support. Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates would be obvious candidates with their strong external positions. It all adds up to a closer relationship between the dollar-surplus Gulf states and the IMF, and this affects the size and scope of the IMF's lending activities in the developing countries.

India, for example, is likely to make use of balance of payments support of up to \$4 billion over three years, and billion-dollar-plus facilities have been offered to Yugoslavia, Pakistan and Zaïre this year.

What remains to be seen is the extent to which Saudi Arabia will use its leverage within the IMF for political ends. So far the Palestine Liberation Organization has been unable to gain observer status at the IMF-World Bank annual meetings, but it will surely not be long before the issue is raised again. This time, with Saudi pressure from within and strong Third World and Arab support, it could be difficult to resist.

It is also possible that the closer Arab-IMF ties will be paralleled by closer cooperation with the World Bank, which has been critical of Arab countries' aid efforts. In particular, it dislikes the concentration of official development assistance from OPEC countries on a few favored recipients, notably the "confrontation states" bordering Israel. The bank would like to see more funds channeled through multilateral institutions — such as itself — rather than given on a bilateral basis.

Much attention has been given to the prospect of OPEC eventually moving away from the dollar as the currency in which oil prices are fixed. Fluctuations in the value of the dollar have in the past caused sudden rises and falls in the purchasing power of oil revenues, and can distort the oil price structure. One of the frequently suggested solutions — usually raised by OPEC members in periods of falling dollar values — is that the price of oil be denominated in terms of a basket of international currencies such as the SDR. This is not a change that will be made overnight, but the SDR's new image, combined with Saudi Arabia's clear commitment to the role of the IMF, make such a move more likely.

tary aggregates at satisfactory levels despite the recent big increases in government spending. Money and quasi-money aggregates expanded at a rate of 15-20 percent in 1980 compared with just 2 percent in 1979, when the island was still suffering from the effects of reduced public expenditure. According to the BMA, the wider definition of money supply rose 27.2 percent, mainly reflecting a big expansion in interest-bearing deposits at the expense of demand deposits.

Bank credit expansion was dramatic in 1980. Loans to residents rose to BD 742 million (\$1.9 billion) in June, 1981, compared with BD 417 million (\$1.1 billion) 12 months earlier. Construction continued to be the most important consumer of bank credit, accounting for 35.8 percent in 1980, followed by trade (26 percent) and manufacturing (12.7 percent).

Nevertheless, there are some major challenges emerging from the growing integration of Gulf economies into the international monetary system. Because Bahrain has no foreign exchange or capital controls, funds are free to move across the exchanges to find profitable arbitrage possibilities. These have been substantial recently. The BMA fixes a ceiling on dinar mon-

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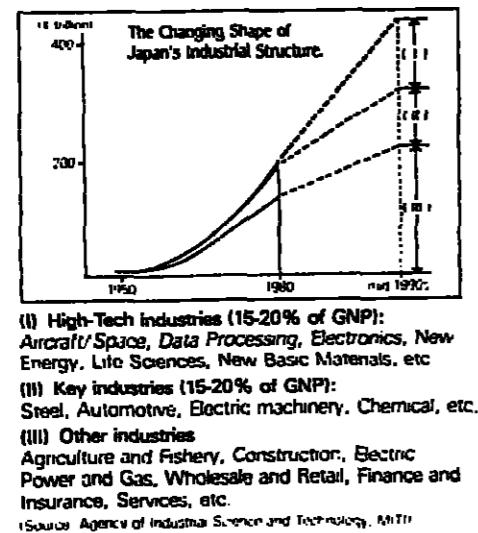
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- Key areas of growth will be Electronics (office automation equipment, computer mainframes, microcomputers, semiconductors), Life Sciences (genetic engineering), New Basic Materials (transformation of metals, organic materials, ceramics), and New Energy (nuclear, solar, geothermal, etc.).
- Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) is committed to raising to 4.0% the ratio of R&D expenditures to GNP by 1986-1990 — one of the highest ratios in the world.
- Specifically, MITI itself intends to appropriate Y100 to Y120 billion over the next decade for R&D on next-generation industrial technology.
- Japan's enterprises excel in adapting existing technology and converting new technology and new products into earnings in a short space of time. One example — Japan now supplies 70% of all industrial-use robots marketed in the world. And the future looks especially good for LSIs, VTRs, NC machine tools, antibiotics, and genetic engineering and related areas.

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in the ARAB WORLD

IRAQ *Rafidain Bank Becomes the Largest in the Islamic Community, Moves Onto World Scene*

By Shakib Otaqui

A NEW name may soon appear on the "tombstones" that are regularly printed in the financial press. Lining banks participating in syndicated loans and bond issues. Rafidain Bank, the sole commercial bank in Iraq, is preparing for direct involvement in world financial markets. Until now, it had restricted itself to the local market and to processing Iraq's foreign trade transactions.

Rafidain Bank has raised its capital to 50 million Iraqi dinars (\$167 million) from its previous 30 million dinars; the government is the only shareholder. This was also done to support the bank's soaring balance sheet total, which, including contra accounts, exceeded \$20 billion in 1979. This made Rafidain easily the Arab world's largest bank. It entered The Banker magazine's list of the world's 500 largest banks for the first time that year, in 155th place. The bank now claims to have moved up to 124 place by end-1980, although its results for last year have not yet been published.

Rafidain has already made a tentative entry into world financial markets through its holdings in a number of Arab consortium banks, including the Paris-based Union de Banques Arabes & Françaises (6.45 percent), the Cairo-

based Arab African International Bank (10 percent) and the latter's subsidiary Al-Bahrain Arab African Bank (1.283 percent). Rafidain recently announced plans to open branches in Sana'a, Amman and Tunis. These will supplement its existing branches in London and seven other Arab countries, bringing the branch network to 216 at home and abroad.

In recent years, deposits have been the bank's main source of funds, accounting for almost 90 percent of assets (excluding contra accounts). Government and public sector entities account for about half the total. But the bank is also actively seeking deposits from private individuals, more than 65 percent of which are held in the form of time and savings accounts. To encourage them further, the bank offers a free lottery and life insurance of 2,000 dinars for the holders of such accounts.

Liquidity Ratios High

Rafidain maintains very high liquidity ratios, with almost half of assets held in the form of cash at banks, on call or short notice. Investments are very limited, mainly in government securities, while foreign investments are minute.

Rafidain's real forte is in processing letters of credit, guarantees and performance bonds. Letters of guarantee totaled 1,923 billion dinars at the end of 1979, while documentary credits totaled another 1,429 billion. This accounts for the anomaly of the bank's extraordinarily large contra accounts.

Until the outbreak of the Gulf war, Iraq had an enviable reputation for promptness in paying its bills. Indeed, some exporters were willing to ship goods without even the protection of an irrevocable letter of credit. This has become rare recently as the war has imposed strains on the country's liquidity.

Reserves were estimated at

Almost half of its assets are held in the form of cash...

about \$35 billion in 1980 and are now thought to have dropped to \$15 billion to \$20 billion. In an effort to maintain development despite the war, spending has been at a frenetic pace. The \$15 billion worth of contracts awarded in the first half of this year already exceeds the \$12.5 billion for the year 1980. Planning Minister Tahar Ibrahim recently estimated total spending at not less than \$133 billion for development during the 1981-1985 plan. Spending on imports, particularly of con-

sumer goods, has boomed, with Baghdad now better supplied than in pre-war days.

Oil production is thought to stand at 1 million barrels a day, about one-third of the pre-war level. To avoid too drastic a rundown of financial reserves, Iraq has arranged about \$12 billion in interest-free loans from other Gulf oil producers, of which \$5 billion is thought to be firm. Kuwait alone has provided an interest-free 10-year loan of \$2 billion.

To preserve the appearance of Iraq's financial strength, Finance Minister Tamer Razzouqi said that Kuwaiti and other loans were a spontaneous expression of solidarity from Iraq's Arab neighbors. This was somewhat contradicted by the Kuwaiti decree approving the loan, published in the official gazette over the signatures of Mr. Razzouqi and his Kuwaiti counterpart, which said that the loan was in response to a request from the Iraqi government.

Nevertheless, the indications are that — with a little help from its friends — Iraq is in a reasonably strong position to pay for its ambitious development program. There have been signs recently of delays by Rafidain Bank in paying on letters of credit, but these are likely to be as much due to inefficiency in handling the enormously increased paperwork involved as to

any financial difficulty. The situation may improve with the installation next January of a computer ordered from France's CII-Honeywell Bull.

Within Iraq, Rafidain's only competition comes from three state-owned specialized banks, of which the largest is the Real Estate Bank. That bank has a capital of 500 million dinars, and granted loans to individuals totaling 1.173 billion dinars in the 12 years to 1980. Another 334 million dinars was lent to 91,000 people in the first six months of this year. Interest on such loans was abolished in May, 1980. The bank has become a significant outlet for excess liquidity in public sector institutions, which are increasingly tending to place their funds with it.

Agricultural Funds

The Agricultural Cooperative Bank recently raised its capital to 150 million dinars, allowing it to lend 520 million dinars this year.

The bank has worked closely with the Agriculture Ministry to widen its services for farm mechanization, poultry projects and the development of orchards. It has been particularly involved in providing low-interest loans to finance the purchase by farmers of tractors imported by the ministry.

The Industrial Bank, capitalized at 50 million dinars, is closely affiliated to the State Organization for Industrial Developments. In a country where most industrial investment is done by the public sector, it is largely limited to financing some minor projects carried out by the private sector. Its role may become more important if the government fulfills its promise to encourage private industrial enterprises in some carefully defined sectors.

This somewhat primitive banking system is closely supervised by the Central Bank of Iraq, which carries out the usual duties of a central bank. Until recently, there was little need for the bank to handle government borrowing — in mid-1980, advances to the public sector amounted to only 2.1 million dinars out of a balance sheet total that reached \$8.84 billion. Foreign exchange controls are strict, and private investment abroad is limited mainly to Arab countries.

Iraq's intrinsic wealth makes this unsophisticated system adequate for handling the country's financial transactions. While the war has substantially reduced oil revenues, the oil remains in the ground, appreciating in value. Heavy industrial investment will eventually reduce the need for imports and may even start to generate significant non-oil export revenues.

SUDAN *Government Bid to Put Priority on Resolving National Economic Problems Expected Soon*

By Robert Bailey

SUDAN, which has been on the brink of national bankruptcy for many years, is likely to make a fresh start to put its economy on a sounder footing in the next few months.

The country's banking system has survived in spite of the trauma, more for the vast promise of its future development than for existing business. There are 29 commercial banks and financial institutions, including branches of the Arab African International Bank of Oman, the Banque de l'Union Européenne, Chase Manhattan Bank and Citibank. There are considered to be more than reasonable profits to be made from short-term funding for private sector banks not overdue on letters of credit and who are also not participants in the debt rescheduling exercise.

A new commercial institution, the Sudan National Bank, capitalized at \$20 million, is to open in 1982. Two other Western banks are thought to be looking into the possibility of opening branches in Khartoum.

The rescheduling involves debts of more than \$420 million plus interest of more than \$40 million owing to commercial banks abroad since the end of 1979, and of \$30 million accruing in the period to June 30, 1980. The protracted negotiations with the banks involved are expected to be completed and an agreement ready for signature by November.

British Bank

Executives of the British merchant bank Morgan Grenfell have been advising the Central Bank of Sudan during the negotiations with a group of five banks representing the creditors. The banks are Chemical Bank and Citibank, both of the United States, Arab African International Bank, Deutsche Bank and the Union de Banques Arabes et Françaises.

The verification exercise has been extended, not least because

of the geographical spread of the creditors, who on each point discussed have to coordinate with their individual legal advisers.

The broad terms of the draft document being discussed with the commercial banks concern \$40 million of the \$170 million in current debt and interest, to be paid within 60 days of an agreement being signed. The balance is to be paid in nine equal installments within three years of signature. The remaining debt principal is to be paid in 17 equal installments starting after three years, with final repayment seven years later. Interest is to be paid quarterly in arrears at 1 1/4 percent above the London interbank offered rate (LIBOR).

Energy Costs

The rescheduling is part of a three-pronged strategy to assist Sudan, which has faced persistent balance-of-payments difficulties for 25 years. The government has the unavoidable record of ineffec-

tive budgetary control and continually underestimated expenditure.

Like most developing countries with unexploited mineral resources, Sudan has been hit hard by the rise in hydrocarbon prices. In the previous fiscal year, imports of gasoline and other refined products cost \$440 million, almost equal to the total value of Sudanese exports. In November, 1979, the member countries of the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development in the Club of Paris agreed to write off debts owed to their governments. The third substantive measure, when agreed to, will be the rescheduling of about \$450 million owed to foreign companies by Sudanese importers. Morgan Grenfell has made recommendations to the Bank of Sudan, and an announcement is expected soon.

Remedial action is being sought to end a long period of what has been little more than crisis management, and to concentrate on development. Creditors would have been unlikely to discuss rescheduling with Sudan unless, as happened, policy guidelines suggested by the International Monetary Fund were accepted.

The IMF agreed to a 200-million-special-drawings-rights (\$227-million) facility in May, 1979, as part of a three-year economic and financial reform program due to have been carried out by November, 1982. The facility was increased to 427 million SDRs late in 1980. Sudan's discussions with the IMF this summer have been aimed at obtaining a further increase of 200 million SDRs, bringing the country to its 475-percent limit according to its IMF quota of 132 million SDRs (\$150 million).

One of the stipulations for previous IMF agreements has been stringent restrictions on creation of credit by the public sector as well as agricultural changes. The 1981-1982 budget envisages government revenues at 1,731 billion Sudanese pounds (\$2,163 billion), although bankers estimate that the

deficit will reach \$700 million. The least optimistic say that in the future Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states cannot be looked on as lenders of last resort.

The drift toward overt support for Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's foreign policies, it is argued, will not have endeared Sudan to these states.

The long-term prognosis for Sudan's financial system is bound up with prospects for development projects. Some of these, like the Kenana Sugar Co.'s cane estate and sugar factory, opened at the end of April, and Chevron Oil Co.'s exploration program, the latter to cost \$70 million, are spectacular. Chevron's concession of 112,000 square miles, covers one of the largest remaining unexplored areas.

With the completion of debt rescheduling, it will be up to the government to prove that it has the imagination and the commitment to exploit Sudan's much delayed opportunities.

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French Are Leaving Boards of Companies in Region

(Continued from Page 75)
banks have been very special in the international banking world. Some have been more heavily involved in commercial banking, others in investment banking. They were a considerable force throughout the 1970s in financing French-Arab trade and helping Arab investment

in France, mainly big real estate deals in Paris such as the purchase of large parts of the Avenue des Champs-Elysées and the Avenue Montaigne.

Heavy Arab investment in Paris has stopped for the time being.

However, there is considerable trade in shares, oil and other com-

modities. The restructured consortium banks will continue along these lines with UBAF perhaps more in commercial banking, BAI in investment and Frab in commodity finance and foreign exchange.

All are doing well, despite the recent changes. UBAF, which

made 38 million francs profit last year compared with 30 million in 1979, says results for this year should be up. Frab is running 20 percent up from last year, and BAI is also showing improvement.

Frab was the first of the consortium banks, but UBAF later became the biggest with a 40 percent Credit Lyonnais holding. UBAF was once virtually a branch of the Crédit Lyonnais, but the situation has now been reversed, with the French maintaining a stake in the French part of UBAF.

Credit Lyonnais sold off to Arab interests in 30 percent remaining holding in UBAF, the Curaçao- and Netherlands-based holding company set up five years ago by Mohammed Abusaidi, the former governor of the Egyptian Central Bank and UBAF chairman since its inception. Mr. Abusaidi has long sought to put "more order" into the worldwide structure of his bank. UBAF top direction is now 100 percent Arab. It has local participation in subsidiaries in such cities as London, Frankfurt, Rome, New York and Hong Kong, and has branches in Seoul and Bahrain, with one planned in Singapore.

UBAF says the new arrangement has made the bank less complicated and will enable it to pursue a single strategy—one holding company owned by Arab interests and a series of affiliates.

As one French banking source commented: "They have grown up. They want to live their own lives and fly with their own wings."

UBAF is still the big name in Paris with prominent roles in organizing loans for Mexico, South Korea, Morocco, Cuba, Nigeria, Argentina and Brazil, but BAI has a reputation based partly on its skill in acquiring real estate in France on behalf of Arab investors.

BAI says it is not going to follow the Arabization example of UBAF and Frab. Yet it has sold its interest in Dean Witter Reynolds in the United States in order to open its own New York office. The same change is likely with the Hill Samuel link in London. There are 38 Arab and international shareholders, and one BAI officer remarked: "We are a happy combination of the old banking establishment of the free world and of the new petro money."

Yet the Arab domination is strong. Abdel Latif Hamad has departed from the chairmanship to become finance minister of Kuwait, but he is to be replaced by Salim Hoss, former premier of Lebanon.

New Commodity Licensing System Hailed

By Edmund O'Sullivan

THE COMMODITY and precious metals licensing system introduced by the Bahrain Monetary Agency (BMA) in July this year has been warmly received by banks doing business in the region.

Early recipients of deal licences are Banque de l'Indocean et de Seine of France, Bahrain-based Gulf Riyad and Gulf International Bank (GIB); Credit Suisse, Swiss Bank Corp. and Luxembourg's Kreditbank, and two investment banks—Trans-Arabian Investment Bank (TAIB), and BAI (Middle East). E.F. Hutton of New York has been granted a broking licence.

The system introduced by the BMA is considered to be strict by international standards, but suitable for Bahrain, which serves a region where recent movements in precious metals markets had produced some disillusion among investors about commodity markets in general.

The rules are clear: dealers can trade on their own account and for others, while brokers will not be allowed to deal as a principal or hold positions spot or forward, in precious metals and commodities.

Offshore companies will be allowed to trade with residents of Bahrain and nonresidents, provided deals are no less than 200 fine ounces of gold, or 5,000 fine ounces of silver.

A second category of dealers is recognized. These are "exempt traders" in commodities for manufacture or processing. They will be supervised by the Commerce and Agriculture Ministry. The BMA's supervision of licensed dealers and brokers will be tight. They are required to report monthly and submit fully audited annual accounts.

The rules are particularly strict for dealers that are not licensed banks. Paid-up capital must be BD 500,000 (\$1.3 million), and BD 250,000 (\$650,000) worth of guarantees given to the BMA. Margins for all traders are high. Clients will be paid BD 4,000 (\$10,000), or 10 percent—which ever is the greater—of unmatched gold futures contracts. For silver, the margin is BD 5,000 (\$13,000)—three times the maximum daily price movement permitted by the New York

Commodity Exchange (Comex) for each unit traded is required for other commodities.

The strictness of the regulations, which is considered to be very much in line with the BMA's other banking rules, means that only reputable operators will consider paying the BD 6,000 per year (\$16,000) for a broking or dealing licence. It is a formula that has pleased BMA's already offering a commodity investment service on the island. They say they believe it will prevent the imprudent and unscrupulous from damaging the development of willingness among local savers to invest in commodities.

Some of the world's biggest operators in commodity markets are already present on the island. The two Swiss banks are active in gold, along with E.F. Hutton, Merrill Lynch International and Company, which has an investment banking licence, is attempting to develop interest in all possible investment vehicles. So far, the precious metals have been the most popular, though some investment potential is emerging in a wider range of commodities.

The BMA, and licensed dealers and brokers, say that the flow of funds passing through Bahrain for investment in commodities is still relatively light. A good proportion of local business is taken out of the area by visiting bankers such as the Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS), and Britain's M.L. Doford and Company. There is also limited understanding of all the delightful subtleties of the market. One of the most attractive is the absence of explicit interests on money invested in commodities.

Commodity markets also lack two-way interest, the necessary prerequisite for a mature market. Experienced commodity specialists like Tico Barandum, manager of Credit Suisse's OBU, say that it will take at least two years before Bahrain begins to rival Hong Kong and Singapore. The consensus is that the longer-term prospects are much brighter, particularly once investors understand that commodities can provide a relatively risk-free stream of market rate earnings with no loss of liquidity.

Petrodollar Fears

(Continued from Page 75)

States—and other industrial countries—OPEC members have fairly recently begun to seek safe investments in the Third World. Kuwait has again led the field, with large investments in joint-venture projects in Asia, other Arab countries and Latin America. In many of these, Kuwait acts through investment companies or merchant banks in which the government has substantial or majority holdings.

These investments have supplemented OPEC concessionary aid to developing countries. The seven Arab OPEC members gave an average of 2.65 percent of their gross national product in 1980, seven times more than the average for 17 countries belonging to the OECD Development Assistance Committee.

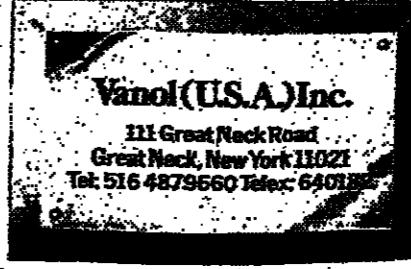
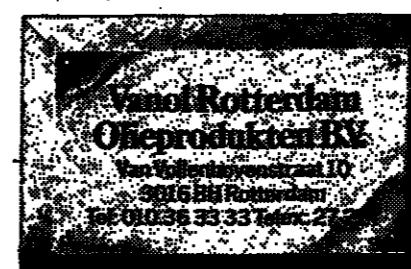
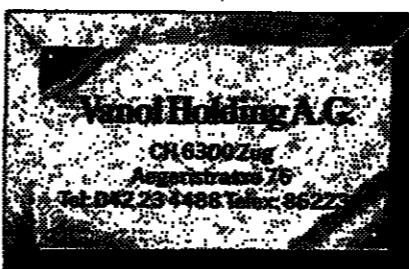
In addition, Arab banks have greatly increased their lending to the less developed countries (LDCs). They are also increasingly taking over from Western banks the role of recycling oil revenues, particularly through the Euromarkets.

The Bahrain-based Arab Banking Corp., which was only incorporated last year, is now in the top 10 of world banks lead-managing syndicated loans. It lead-managed loans totaling about \$9.5 billion in the first half of 1981, followed by Gulf International Bank with \$6.7 billion. Between them, the two have outpaced Chase Manhattan Bank, which, with \$15 billion, remains the most active lead-manager.

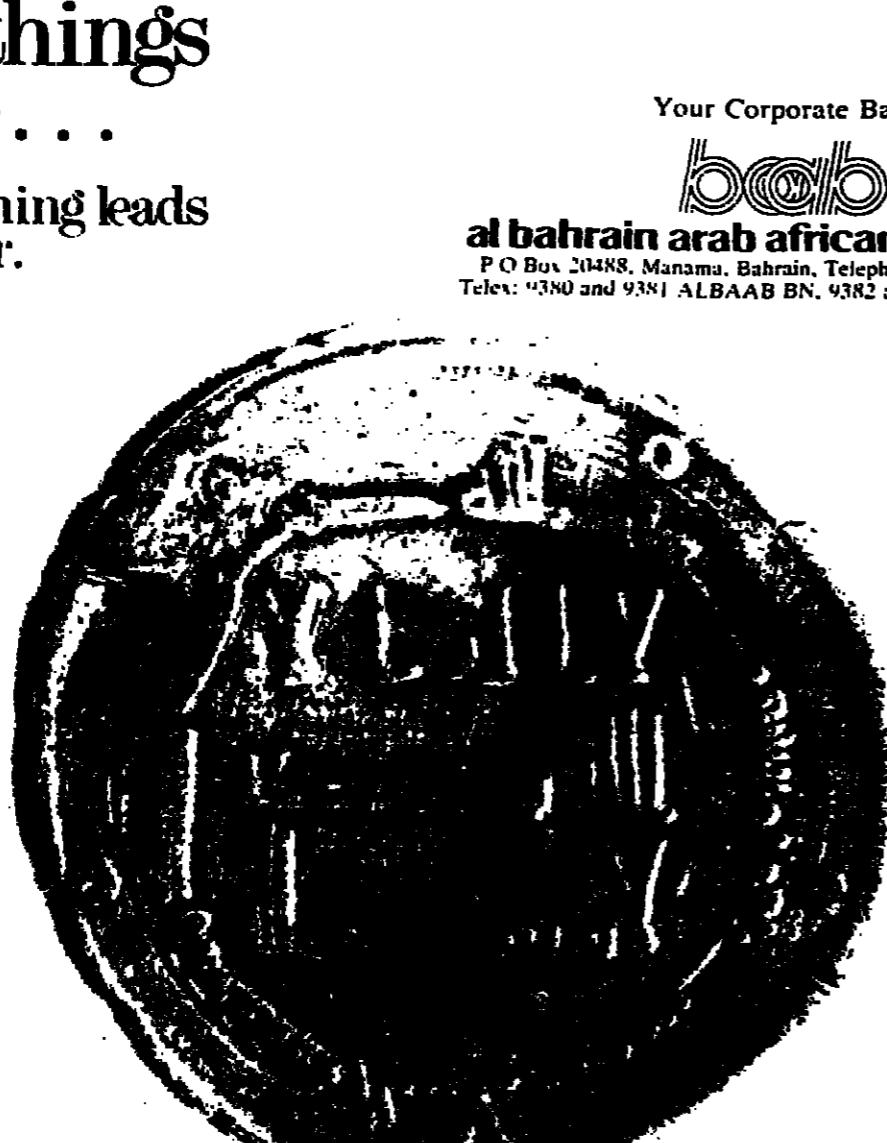
The growth of Arab international banking has been a relief to Western banks, which by the late 1970s had become concerned at the extent of their sovereign risk exposure in developing countries, which needed to borrow heavily to finance their oil deficits.

The share of non-oil-producing, non-Islamic LDCs in Arab bank lending has soared from 3 percent in 1976 to 32 percent in 1980. In absolute terms, total lending more than tripled during the period. Much of this is done by national or consortium banks in which governments have substantial holdings, and often reflects political as much as financial considerations. Arab institutions, for example, have maintained their lending to countries such as Brazil, which Western bankers increasingly feel is too risky a borrower.

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Banking and Finance in the ARAB WORLD

ALGERIA

By Michael Frost

A RECENT, comprehensive reshuffling of the heads of Algeria's major financial institutions is symptomatic of the government's current keenness to inject new life into the management of the country's finances.

There have been changes of governor at the Banque Centrale d'Algérie (BCA) and of director-general at the state investment bank, Banque Algérienne de Développement (BAD), and the three state-owned commercial banks — Banque Externe d'Algérie (BEA), Banque Nationale d'Algérie (BNA) and Crédit Populaire d'Algérie (CPA). In addition, new heads have been appointed to the state savings and mortgage bank, Caisse Nationale d'Epargne et de Prévoyance (CNEP), and to the customs service.

The most senior change concerns Mohammed Seghir Mostefai, the former BCA chief who played an important role in negotiating the release of the U.S. hostages from Iran. He is replaced by Mahmoud Aouti, the former director-general of BAD, while Mr. Aouti's job goes to Abdelloumene Fawzi Bensmalek. Mr. Mostefai's replacement may be due partly to his being ill earlier this year, for he is a respected figure with many years of financial experience dating back to a spell at the Tunisian central bank before Algeria's independence in 1962. He has been BCA governor since 1963, and is tipped by some Algiers diplomatic sources to become the next finance minister.

But the changes at the top of the commercial banks clearly reflect two major concerns: to create a sense of ambition and competition in more junior personnel by showing them that there are improved prospects for promotion, and to bring new blood into the banking system at a time when the government is seeking to make it more responsive to the current phase of the country's development.

CPA Director-General

Typical of the new appointees is Mohammed Terbeche, a former technical adviser at the Finance Ministry and one-time Algerian representative at the World Bank, who becomes director-general of CPA. Mr. Terbeche who accompanied Planning Minister Abdellah Brahimi on his visit to Britain last year to present an outline of the 1980-1984 development plan to businessmen, an enthusiastic proponent of change in the structure of Algeria's financial institutions.

The three commercial banks were established in the mid-1960s after the state took over the local affiliates that foreign banks — mainly French — had established before independence. The foreign

banks had since independence persistently refused to become involved with internal credit, insisting on financing foreign trade only. As their profits returned to their foreign-based parent banks in the form of commissions and high borrowing rates, these affiliates brought little benefit to the national economy.

The early role of the commercial banks was to provide medium-term credit, discounted through the BCA, to complement the budgetary funds disbursed by the specialized BAD. In 1970, it was decided that productive investment would no longer be financed through budgetary funds, but entirely through credit. In 1970 also, with the economy becoming increasingly complex, each of the three commercial banks was made solely responsible for the credit needs of a number of state enterprises.

Mr. Terbeche said that the next development will be designed to give banks more say in the financial aspects of project identification and implementation. It will also enable decision-making on smaller schemes to be decentralized regionally, thus modifying the present rigid system requiring central approval of all decisions made at the local level.

Provincial Branches

To this end, more branches of the existing commercial banks will be created in the provinces, and they will be better-funded and have more autonomy than provincial branches now have. This will have the additional benefit of assuring wider banking coverage of the less developed regions, particularly the High Plateaus and the South, where much industrial development is planned. The overwhelming majority of bank branches is now concentrated in the population and industrial centers of the North.

In addition, the established banks will relinquish some of their responsibilities to a number of new and more specialized autonomous agencies. A bank is to be set up to handle finance and agriculture, hitherto one of the responsibilities of the BNA. The next new bank to be approved is expected to take over from the BEA, at least some of its responsibility for financing hydrocarbon schemes.

Mr. Terbeche said that the Finance Ministry is debating the optimum size of the new banks, and that the structure should have started to take shape by the end of the year. The benefits that would accrue, in terms of specialization, from having one bank solely responsible for each of the major state industrial enterprises have to be weighed against the question of "image abroad." By this, Mr. Terbeche means that the new banks

will have to be big enough to inspire confidence when they need to approach the international money market.

Algeria has in fact stayed out of the money market since the beginning of 1980, having borrowed massively in the 1970s to finance its rush to industrialize. There are no more plans to return to the market before 1982, Mr. Terbeche said. A more measured approach to investment — what the Heavy Industry Ministry's planning director, Abdel-Hamid Djebbar, calls a sequential mode of development — means that there is no longer such a need for quick, blanket finance. Instead, ministries and enterprises will increasingly seek finance tailored to the needs of individual capital schemes and equipment purchases.

Among the newer sources of finance the government is hoping

to tap are lines of credit with trading partners, similar to the Can.\$1.2-billion credit agreed to in 1978 with Canada's Export Development Corp. An agreement was signed in June on the first 6-billion-schilling part of a 30-billion-schilling credit to be made available by Austria's state-backed Oesterreichische Kontrollbank.

The government will also increasingly seek to barter crude oil

for imported products and to create joint commercial banks with countries offering scope for increased trade.

The first such bank

has been created in Italy, with an initial capital of 10 billion lire

equally subscribed to by the two partners.

The bank will start operating after its statute is signed during Finance Minister M'Hamed Hadi Yala's visit to Rome in mid-September. Diplomatic sources in Algiers say that Italy is keen to

participate in the bank partly to

"take the heat off" its export insurance.

Last year, Italian Commerce

and Industry Minister Antonia Bisaglia said that export insurance for Algeria totaled almost \$3 billion

and could not be increased at

least until gas started to flow

through the Algeria-Italy

TransMed pipeline, which is due

to come on stream later in 1981.

Mr. Terbeche said that the next

joint bank is likely to be set up

with the Ivory Coast, where there

is scope for increasing exports of

wine and imports of coffee, bananas and other products.

In addition, the government will

be hoping to finance almost all its

equipment purchases through sup-

plier credits and other forms of

concessional finance. In many

cases, the choice of supplier will

depend on the quality of finance

available.

Diminishing Role for the Small Banks

By Michael Petrie-Ritchie

SEVERAL small banks in the

Gulf region are little more

than money shops. They are the

legacy of the earlier days of oil

wealth, when many Gulf states

lacked the administrative structure

to control economic growth and

were easy prey for entrepreneurs.

The initial investment in setting

up a small bank — some have had

capital of barely more than \$1

million — is paltry compared with

the rewards that can be reaped in a

booming oil region.

And small banks can cause big

headaches to their country of origin.

Because of their meager re-

sources, they are more vulnerable

in times of banking crisis and li-

quidity shortage. There are many

cases of governments having to bail

out such banks. This is largely

because the smaller banks are pri-

ately owned, sometimes by a few

but often by many local sharehold-

ers. Thus the governments feel

duty-bound to protect the interests

of the local population and pre-

vent such institutions from going

under.

By nature, small banks do not

get involved in the international

markets. They are there principally

to mop up surplus deposits, and

many are active in local trade fi-

nancing. Those that have a foreign

shareholding often provide a use-

ful link in repatriating to their

home countries the remittances of

foreign workers.

2 Banks Beef Up

The United Arab Emirates was

one of the countries most affected

by the uncontrolled growth of

banks — it had 53 commercial

banks at last count — and it is

only beginning to deal firmly with

the issue. Its newly formed Central

Bank has set up a minimum capi-

tal requirement of 40 million dir-

hams and is seeking to get small

banks to recapitalize to this level

or merge.

Two banks beefed up their

capital this year by finding new

shareholders are the Ajman-based

First Gulf Bank and the Bank of

the Arab Coast (BAC) in Ras al-

Khaimah. The tiny BAC was set

up in 1975 with a 5-million-dirham

capital owned 49 percent by Leb-

anese interests. In January, its capi-

tal was increased twentyfold to

100 million dirhams. By compari-

son, the largest UAE bank, Na-

tional Bank of Abu Dhabi, had to

footings almost 300 times

BAC's 1980 figure of 60 million

dirhams.

Foreign Role Reduced

The small bank is also on the

way out in Saudi Arabia. Most lo-

cal banks have sizable asset-liabili-

ties figures by any standards. For-

ign participation is slowly being

reduced by a determined policy of

"Saudi-ization" aimed at bringing

the kingdom's economy under

tighter national control.

Doha Bank is the smallest and

newest of Qatar's three national

banks. Set up in 1979 with a capi-

tal of 15 million Qatar riyals, its

shareholders include two state

companies — Qatar Flour Mills

and Qatar National Navigation

and Transport — and two local in-

surance companies as well as pri-

Dunlop Sells Malaysia Unit

London — Dunlop, the British-based tire company, said Tuesday it had agreed to sell its Malaysian rubber plantations to local interests. The price, to be paid in 1982, is equivalent to about \$10 million.

The decision removes the threat of an all-out takeover bid for Dunlop by Malaysian interests, according to industry sources. Malaysia has officially said it wants control of all its resource-based industries.

The company said it agreed during talks in Zurich to the sale of its 51-percent controlling stake in Dunlop Estates to a Malaysian company called Multi-Purpose Holdings. At the same time, Multi-Purpose, a Perg, Malaysia, gave assurances to Dunlop that they have no plans to increase their stake in Dunlop Holdings, the parent company.

New Venture Planned

Pegi is indirectly controlled by Ghafar Baba, a Malaysian businessman and politician who holds a 17-percent interest in Dunlop Holdings. The stake was acquired in a series of stock market forays started a little over 18 months ago. This gave rise to market speculation that Mr. Ghafar Baba was planning a takeover.

Pegi plans to form an equally owned venture with Multi-Purpose Holdings to supersede Dunlop Estates, Dunlop said. Industry sources said Multi-Purpose is controlled by the Malaysian-Chinese Association, a political and investment group.

Dunlop put total Malaysian holdings in its parent company, including Pegi's interest, at around 30 percent of its share capital. The full extent and identity of Malaysian holdings in Dunlop are being investigated by the British Trade Department.

Profit Decline

Earlier this month the Malaysian government's national equity corporation, Permodola Nasional, increased its shareholding in the London-based Guthrie plantation group to more than 50 percent after buying Guthrie shares valued at \$72 million in a stockmarket raid.

Dunlop, which has suffered declining profits in recent years, said the sale of its controlling interest in its long-held Malaysian planta-

tions will provide the company with cash to help reshape its strategy. The sale agreement could be completed by the end of 1981, the company said.

The price, set at 252 million ringgit, will be paid in Swiss francs under a bank guarantee over a period of 24 months from the date the contract becomes unconditional, Dunlop said. Half of each installment will be paid following conversion into Swiss francs at Tuesday's closing rate in Zurich and the other half at the rate prevailing at the date of payment.

Dunlop holdings said its 1980 pre-tax profit of \$10 million included \$7 million from Dunlop Estates. Dunlop Estates contributed a 50-percent stake in the country's corporate wealth by 1990.

15.3% August Export Rise Lifts Japan's Trade Surplus

Resets

TOKYO — Booming exports gave Japan a trade surplus of \$1.74 billion last month, lifting the surplus for the first eight months of the year to \$10.99 billion, according to Finance Ministry statistics released Tuesday.

The August surplus was down from \$2.36 billion in July but up from a \$305-million surplus earlier.

Domestic Slowdown

The value of exports in August rose 15.3 percent from a year earlier, while imports showed only a 1-percent gain.

The visible trade surplus for the first eight months of 1981 compares with a \$3.43-billion deficit in the 1980 period and an original government prediction for a \$7.98-billion surplus for fiscal 1981 ending next March.

A slowdown in the domestic economy was underlined Tuesday by preliminary figures showing industrial production had fallen 2.2 percent in August after a 1-percent gain in July.

Officials said the August production fall resulted from a longer usual summer holiday taken by many industries to adjust inventories.

The figures were released three days before Japan's Economic Planning Agency (EPA) is to meet

first half of 1981, when the group showed an overall pretax loss of £3 million.

Guthrie Inquiry Pledged

KUALA LUMPUR (Reuters) — An investigation of the implications for British investments of Malaysia's recent takeover of London-based Guthrie will be launched, Peter Rees, the British minister for trade, said Tuesday.

Mr. Rees, who arrived from Bangkok on a regional tour, said the takeover raised questions about British interests under Malaysia's national economic policy.

The policy aims to give Bumiputras, which include Malays and other indigenous races, a 30-percent stake in the country's corporate wealth by 1990.

Dunlop holdings said its 1980 pre-tax profit of \$10 million included \$7 million from Dunlop Estates. Dunlop Estates contributed a 50-percent stake in the country's corporate wealth by 1990.

U.S. Imports Of Steel Items Up Sharply

European Price Seen Below Trigger Level

By Lydia Chavez

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Steel imports by the United States rose 62 percent in August to their highest monthly level in nearly four years, according to the American Iron and Steel Institute.

While products used by the oil industry accounted for most of the rise, imports of sheet steel for the auto industry also increased substantially, the industry group reported Monday.

"What is worrisome is the sharp rise in sheet sales," said Gary Horlick, deputy assistant secretary of Commerce for import administration. "We will definitely be watching these closely."

Analysts said the rise in products such as sheet steel indicates that the European producers, which have traditionally supplied the auto industry, are selling steel under the trigger price, the minimum price at which exporters are allowed to sell steel into the United States.

It is based on the cost of the Japanese producers and was set up to prevent exporters from dumping steel in the United States. The Commerce Department monitors the mechanism and is authorized to investigate sales under the trigger price.

Steel imports rose to 2.23 million tons last month, compared with 1.37 million tons in August of last year and 1.66 million tons in July. The August figures surpassed the record set in February 1978, when imports rose to 2.2 million tons.

Steel products used by the oil industry doubled to 732,000 tons compared with August of last year. Imports of sheet steel rose 62 percent, to 402,000 tons.

Analysts said the rise in products used by the oil industry was given as the major force behind the gain. Block trades of 10,000 shares or more, a mea-

W. Europeans, Russia Sign Pipe Deal

By John Tagliabue

New York Times Service

BONN — A joint venture of West German and French companies signed Monday the first contracts in what is expected to be the biggest East-West trade deal ever, agreeing to supply gas compressor stations from Siberia to Russia's western border, it was disclosed Tuesday.

A spokesman for Mannesmann,

the West German steel company,

said the contracts on a pipeline that is to ship Soviet gas from western Siberia to Western Europe beginning in the mid-1980s. The spokesman, Klaus Germann, said the contracts are worth 2.2 billion Deutsche marks.

Loire, the French steel company, signed contracts in Düsseldorf Monday to deliver and install 22 gas compressor stations on a pipeline that is to ship Soviet gas from western Siberia to Western Europe beginning in the mid-1980s. The spokesman, Klaus Germann, said the contracts are worth 2.2 billion Deutsche marks.

Politics and Business

The disclosure came one day after delegations of West German and Soviet government and industry officials concluded five days of talks in Moscow on ways to broad-

en West German-Soviet economic relations.

But the Mannesmann spokesman denied the two events were directly related.

"They talked politics," Mr. Germann said. "We talked business."

Mannesmann also agreed to supply compressor equipment, including piping systems, skids, pumps and other aggregates worth 135 million DM.

Agreements were also concluded where AEG-Kanis, a unit of the West German electrical company AEG-Telefunken, will supply 47 compressor turbines worth 700 million DM, and John Brown, a

Glasgow-based company, will supply 21 turbines beginning in August 1982.

A spokesman for AEG-Telefunken in Frankfurt said General Electric would supply rotors for some of the turbines, but he was unable to disclose their value.

U.S. Displeasure

Both the Carter and Reagan administrations have expressed displeasure with the pipeline deal, fearing excessive Western European industrial and energy dependence on the Soviet Union might weaken Western solidarity. But the need for alternative energy sources and industrial orders, and the desire for broadened economic relations with the Russians for political reasons caused European leaders to conclude the deal despite U.S. objections.

AEG spokesman Friedrich Bender said a total of 41 compressor stations will be installed on the pipeline, which is expected to transport more than 100 trillion cubic feet of gas annually from the Urengoy gas field, near the Yamal Peninsula in western Siberia, to six Western European countries.

Contracts for 57 turbines for the remaining 19 compressor stations are expected to be awarded soon to Italy's Nuovo Pignone, a subsidiary of the state-controlled Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi, Mr. Bender said.

AEG-Kanis is also bidding for contracts to deliver electrical control components, communications and remote-control systems for the Pipeline, he added.

French Subsidy

The Mannesmann-Creusot-Loire grouping underbid competitors, including a group of companies led by AEG-Telefunken and Salzgitter, the state-owned West German steel company. Though no financing details were released, it is thought the French-German group's low bid was at least partly due to French government subsidies.

Meanwhile, talks are continuing between Soviet and Western industry officials on two outstanding sectors of the pipeline deal: Deliveries of 3 million metric tons of steel pipe, estimated to be worth more than 4.6 billion DM, and the sale price of the natural gas Russia will deliver.

But at the meeting that ended in Moscow on Monday, Soviet and West German officials expressed confidence that a final agreement might be reached before Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezhnev visits Bonn for talks with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in late November.

W. German Living Cost Up 0.5% in September

WIESBADEN — The West German cost-of-living index rose 0.5 percent in September.

The index, base 1976, stood 6.641. The West German cost-of-living index rose 0.5 percent in September.

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NYSE Nationwide Trading Closing Prices Sept. 29

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street.

12 Month Stock	In \$ Yld. P/E	1980 High	Low	Close	Prev
High					
Low					
Div.					
Chse					
Close					
Prev					

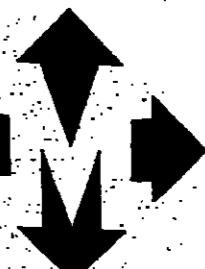
(Continued from Page 6)

12 Month Stock	In \$ Yld. P/E	1980 High	Low	Close	Prev
High					
Low					
Div.					
Chse					
Close					
Prev					

Because of technical problems, 3 pm prices for the following issues are not available for this edition. These are 2 pm prices:

12 Month Stock	In \$ Yld. P/E	1980 High	Low	Close	Prev
High					
Low					
Div.					
Chse					
Close					
Prev					

12 Month Stock	In \$ Yld. P/E	1980 High	Low	Close	Prev
High					
Low					
Div.					
Chse					
Close					
Prev					



Growth in Energy
Pipelines/Refining/Marketing/Oil/Gas/Minerals/Coal

MAPCO, INC.
1800 S. Baltimore Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74119
Ph. (918) 584-4471
Symbol MDA/NYSE/MWSE/PSE

12 Month Stock	In \$ Yld. P/E	1980 High	Low	Close	Prev
High					
Low					
Div.					
Chse					
Close					
Prev					

New Issue
September 30, 1981

All these bonds having been sold, this announcement appears as a matter of record only.

National Westminster Finance B.V.

(Incorporated in The Netherlands with limited liability)

DM 125,000,000 11% Bonds due 1991

Guaranteed on a subordinated basis as to payment of principal and interest by

National Westminster Bank Limited

(Incorporated in England with limited liability)



WESTDEUTSCHE LANDESBANK

GIROZENTRALE

COUNTY BANK

Limited

CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON

Limited

GIROZENTRALE UND BANK
DER ÖSTERREICHISCHEN SPARKASSEN

KUWAIT INVESTMENT COMPANY (S.A.K.)

ORION ROYAL BANK

Limited

SALOMON BROTHERS INTERNATIONAL

S.G. WARBURG & CO. LTD.

Abu Dhabi Investment Company

Alshab Bank of Kuwait (K.S.C.)

Algemene Bank Nederland N.V.

Al-Mai Group

Arno International

Limited

Arab Banking Corporation (ABC)

Arab Bank Investment Company

Limited

Banca Commerciale Italiana

Banca del Gortado

Bank of America International

Limited

The Bank of Bermuda

Limited

Bank Julius Baer International

Limited

Bank Guttmuller, Kurz, Bungener

(Overseas) Limited

Bank Leu International Ltd., Nassau, Bahamas

Bank of Tokyo International

Limited

Banque Bruxelles Lambert S.A.

Banque Française du Commerce Extérieur

Banque Générale du Luxembourg

Société Anonyme

Banque de l'Indochine et du Suez

Banque Internationale à Luxembourg S.A.

Banque Nationale de Paris

Banque de Neuflize, Schlumberger, Matet

Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas

Banque Populaire Suisse S.A., Luxembourg

Banque de l'Union Européenne

Banque Worms

Barclays Bank Group

Barings Brothers & Co.,

Limited

Bayerische Hypotheken- und Wechsel-Bank

Aktiengesellschaft

Bayerische Landesbank

Girozentrale

Bayerische Vereinsbank

Aktiengesellschaft

Joh. Berenberg, Gossler & Co.

Bergen Bank

Berliner Bank

Aktiengesellschaft

Berliner Handels- und Frankfurter Bank

Blyth Eastman Peacock Webber

International Limited

B.S.I. Underwriters

Limited

Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations

Chase Manhattan

Limited

Chemical Bank International Group

Christiansen Bank og Kreditkasse

Citicorp International Group

Commercebank

Aktiengesellschaft

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Creditanstalt-Bankverein

Crédit Commercial de France

Crédit Lyonnais

Credito Italiano

Daishi-Ichi Kangyo International

Limited

Daiwa Europe

Limited

Richard Daus & Co.

Bankers

Den Danske Bank

31st Aktieselskab

Dansk Creditbank

Dansk

Kreditforeningen

Aktiengesellschaft

Deutsche Bank

Aktiengesellschaft

Deutsche Genossenschaftsbank

Deutsche Girozentrale

- Deutsche Kommunalbank -

Dillon, Read Overseas Corporation

Dominion Securities Ames

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Dresdner Bank

Aktiengesellschaft

Effectenbank-Werburg

Aktiengesellschaft

European Arab Bank

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Aktiengesellschaft

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Groupement des Banquiers

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WestLB

Aktiengesellschaft

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McLeod Young Weir International

Industry in U.S. Midwest Sees Longer Slump

By Winston Williams,
New York Times Service

CHICAGO — Auto plants and their suppliers are laying off workers once again. Steelmakers are complaining anew about imports. Appliance manufacturers are liquidating inventories. And farm equipment companies are cutting back their expansion programs.

Many industrialists in the Midwest had expected the economy to start recovering in the fourth quarter. But convinced now that they were wrong, businessmen in America's industrial heartland are bracing for a slump that could continue well into 1982.

Like Wall Street, the industrial belt is worried that persistently high interest rates will mean less business and more unemployment. Continuation of the slump, experts say, will delay the region's effort to rebuild its decaying industrial base.

"I don't see a rosy picture for jobs and production next year if the Fed sticks to its program," said Thomas Gittings, an economist for the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, referring to the Fed's policy of monetary restraint. "Things are going to be pretty darn flat all over, but this area will suffer more than the rest of the nation."

Structural Changes

The nation's heavy-manufacturing belt — concentrated largely in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and parts of Wisconsin, Iowa and Pennsylvania — never recovered completely from the recession that began in the second quarter of last year.

The Midwest for the last half-dozen years has been the focal point of structural changes that have squeezed its economy. It has suffered from rising imports of manufactured goods, and now a strong dollar has made U.S. goods more expensive abroad and has cut into the region's exports, particularly of machinery and grain.

Heavy manufacturing is vastly more important to this region than to the rest of the country. But many of the factories are old and obsolete, leading many companies to leave for more efficient plants in the Sun Belt. Even when old facilities have been rebuilt, the payroll of the remodeled plant is usually smaller because of new labor-saving machinery.

Low overall demand for cars, trucks, tractors and appliances during the last two years has aggravated the problem. Unemployment

in the region is the worst in the country. High interest rates now threaten to prolong the slump and send unemployment even higher, experts say.

"Interest rates have put a lid on things that are manufactured in the Midwest," said Mitchell Fromstein, president of Marpower Inc., a temporary-help agency based in Milwaukee. "The products can't jump over the hurdle of high interest rates."

A manpower survey of private sector hiring intentions in the fourth quarter showed a bleak picture for the nation, but the outlook for the Midwest was even more gloom.

Another sign of steel troubles became apparent in Duluth, Minn., last week when an executive of Bethlehem Steel warned a seminar at the University of Minnesota that rising steel imports endangered \$5 billion in modernization projects announced this year by the steel industry.

Like their counterparts in appliances and farm equipment, steelmakers are worried about the high level of inventories, which many businessmen built early this year in anticipation of a strong recovery later in the year.

Price War

General Electric has temporarily laid off all its 15,800 production workers at Appliance Park in Louisville, Ky., and some furloughs will be continued through December, the company said, to control bulging inventories of major appliances. Farm equipment makers, including beleaguered International Harvester and Allis-Chalmers, are engaged in an expensive price war to unload inventories.

The farm sector, where low commodity prices and high interest rates have put farmers in a sour mood, is the cause of much of the region's economic malaise. The poor prospect has led John Deere to slow its ambitious expansion plans.

"We're looking for a better interest-rate environment and the strengthening of market conditions before we get back to expansion," said Robert Hansen, Deere's president.

Paul Harmon, chief economist of Armcost Steel, said he expected many other companies to adopt a similar approach to capital expenditures. "Investment horizons" are very short, he said, because of high interest rates and uncertainty over President Reagan's economic program.

These factors will depress capital spending for the present and for most of next year. Stretching out or canceling capital projects could delay the region's "reindustrialization" and postpone the return of competitiveness to some troubled companies, analysts said.

But gloom is not found everywhere. Pollsters said that consumer confidence was still relatively strong and that retail sales were holding up fairly well. The machine tool industry, which makes metal-cutting and metal-forming equipment, is busily working off a large backlog even after new orders plummeted in recent months.

Clausen Defends 'Soft' Loan Policy of IDA

By Hobart Rowen,
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — In his first official appearance as president of the World Bank, A.W. Clausen took sharp issue Tuesday with charges by the Reagan administration that the World Bank ignores the private sector, and should toughen up its requirements for loans to middle-income countries, as well as to the very poorest.

In an address to the Bank-International Monetary Fund annual meeting here, he warned bluntly that to scrap or limit subsidized aid through the World Bank's concessional arm, the International Development Association, might lead to "political and social instability" in the Third World, even touching off violence among the jobless in urban slums.

Combination Approach

"There is no alternative but having an IDA-7 [the next scheduled three-year replenishment of IDA funds]," Mr. Clausen told a news conference. "There is just no other alternative for the poorest nations in this world that ... do not have access to the commercial markets."

But he said that the next replenishment would have to be structured differently, probably with less grant money from the rich nations. He implied that after 1983, IDA might have to borrow from commercial markets as well as from donor countries, and that the U.S. share could be less than its 27-percent involvement in IDA-6.

The most critical of U.S. officials have suggested that the

World Bank's programs lately have degenerated into the equivalent of worldwide welfare. Others complain because it deals on a government-to-government basis.

Mr. Clausen brushed such criticisms aside. "You can't solve all of the problems with the private sector, no one's saying that you can," he said. "You can't solve all of the problems bilaterally." He said a combination approach is needed.

His defense of IDA, which has come in for the brunt of the U.S. criticism, was in unusually strong terms. "There is a general tendency to think that soft loans are made by soft-headed people that have got soft requirements," the former chief executive of the Bank of America told reporters. "Actually, the same criteria for economic return on the credits [as on World Bank loans] is expected."

Mr. Clausen told the joint meeting that IDA "must be continued" after the current funding expires in 1984. Statements by U.S. Treasury officials last week left open the question of whether the United States would participate in the next IDA replenishment.

Self-Interest

Mr. Clausen said that the United States should continue to support IDA as a matter of self-interest.

"The issue is not whether IDA is effective," Mr. Clausen said in his speech. "It is. Nor is the issue whether IDA is a philanthropic society. It is not. An IDA credit is not a welfare check. It is a productive investment. Consider the countries that were IDA recipients only a few years ago: Korea, the

Philippines, Thailand, Ivory Coast, and some 15 similar cases.

"These countries have not only graduated from low-income to middle-income economies, but today are vigorous and valuable trading partners with the developed nations."

Treasury Secretary Donald Regan last week said that some countries that will deal with this and other issues apparently wants the World Bank to accelerate the graduation process at all levels. Mr. Clausen acknowledged the pressure, noting that the industrial nations are being forced to keep their budgets in check in response to inflationary pressures.

At the news conference, Mr. Clausen said that a change in the World Bank's gearing ratio, as proposed last year by its former president, Robert S. McNamara, is appropriate, but not realistic for at least five years.

BEAT INFLATION GUARANTEED

DOLLAR (Can.)	19	%
PESETA (Span.)	19	%
DOLLAR (U.S.)	18,50%	
STERLING (E)	15,75%	
FRANC (French)	17,50%	
MARK (Deutsch)	12,75%	
FRANC (Swiss)	7	%

NO TAX
Streets Building Society
Lightning Deposit Board
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P.O. Box 363 - Gibraltar
Tel: 725-44. Telex: 2297 STRASOK

These securities have been sold outside the United States of America and Japan. This announcement appears as a matter of record only.

NEW ISSUE

29th September, 1981

Sumitomo Metal Industries, Ltd.

(Sumitomo Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha)

U.S. \$50,000,000

5 1/2% Convertible Bonds Due 1996

Kidder, Peabody International Limited
Daiwa Europe Limited

Nomura International Limited
Sumitomo Finance International

S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.

Banque Nationale de Paris

Kuwait Investment Company (S.A.K.)

The National Commercial Bank (Saudi Arabia)

Swiss Bank Corporation International Limited

Yamaichi International (Europe) Limited

Abu Dhabi Investment Company

Amro International Limited

Associated Japanese Bank (International) Limited

Banca Commerciale Italiana

Banca del Gottardo

Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura SpA

Bank of America International Limited

Bank Julius Baer International Limited

Bank Brusel Lambert N.V.

Bank of Tokyo International Limited

Banque Arabe et Internationale d'Investissement (B.A.I.I.)

Banque Francaise du Commerce Exterieur

Banque Generale du Luxembourg S.A.

Banque de l'Indochine et de Suez

Banque Internationale à Luxembourg Societe Anonyme

Banque de Neufville, Schlumberger, Mallet

Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas

Banque Populaire Suisse SA Luxembourg

Banque Worms

Baring Brothers & Co., Limited

Bayerische Vereinsbank Aktiengesellschaft

Berliner Handels- und Frankfurter Bank

Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations

Cazenove & Co. (Overseas)

Chase Manhattan Limited

Chemical Bank International Group

Christiansen Bank og Kreditkasse

Citicorp International Group

Commerzbank Aktiengesellschaft

Compagnie de Banque et d'Investissements. CBI

County Bank Limited

Crédit Commercial de France

Crédit Industriel et Commercial

Crédit Lyonnais

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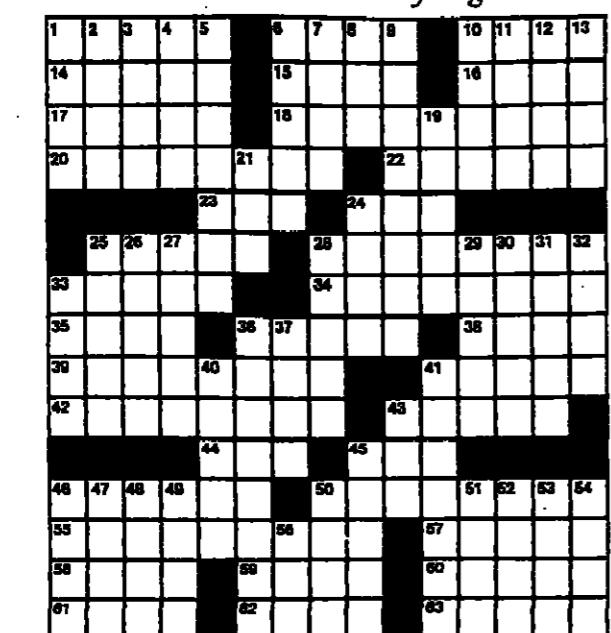
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African Dvt. Bkt 7-83	LTCB 64-82	19/26	95-96	100%							
Alchini Kwest 1984	LTCB 54-85	19/26	95-96	100%							
Allied Irish 1984	LTCB 54-86	17/16	95-96	100%							
Allied Irish 54-87	LTCB 54-89	18/16	12-15	99%	99-99						
Armas Fin 82-85	Lloyds Eurofin 74-82	18/2/16	11-18	98%	99-99						
Autel. Int'l Corp 82-83	Lloyds Eurofin 74-83	18/2/16	11-18	98%	99-99						
Bordexx Oceans 54-85	Lloyds Eurofin 74-85	17/16	95-96	100%							
Bos. Fin 82-85	Man Fin 82-84	19/26	95-96	100%							
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23 Leaping light
24 Not D.R. but he is
25 Kind of dove in a Texas team's home
26 Ricochets
33 Pewter, for one
34 "Praise ye the Lord!"
35 Enter
36 Gambling game using 40 cards
38 Word with sum
39 Like a siren
41 "Ave gratia
42 Expedient
43 Kind of machine
44 Rwy.

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ANKARA	24	24	15	15	F	15
ATHENS	27	29	15	15	F	15
AUCKLAND	15	29	12	14	F	14
BANGKOK	24	24	15	15	F	15
BEIRUT	24	24	15	15	F	15
BELGRADE	25	25	15	15	F	15
BERLIN	15	15	7	7	F	7
BOSTON	15	15	7	7	F	7
BRUSSELS	17	17	10	10	F	10
BUCHAREST	22	22	10	10	F	10
BUDAPEST	21	21	17	17	F	17
BUSQUES AIRES	21	21	17	17	F	17
CAIRO	15	15	7	7	F	7
CASABLANCA	24	25	12	14	F	14
CHICAGO	21	25	14	14	F	14
COPENHAGEN	14	17	7	7	F	7
DAKAR	23	21	15	15	F	15
DAMASCUS	33	31	17	17	F	17
DUBLIN	15	15	7	7	F	7
EDINBURGH	12	15	7	7	F	7
FLORENCE	15	15	7	7	F	7
FRANKFURT	16	16	7	7	F	7
GENEVA	15	15	7	7	F	7
HELSINKI	19	16	15	15	F	15
HONG KONG	27	21	15	15	F	15
HONG KONG	27	21	15	15	F	15
ISTANBUL	24	25	17	17	F	17
JERUSALEM	27	21	15	15	F	15
LAS PALMAS	27	27	12	12	F	12
LIMA	23	23	12	12	F	12
LISBON	17	17	12	12	F	12
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Observer

Pasty-Faced Customer

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — Actually, this is meant only for the manufacturers of a new brand of shaving cream, whose company name I shall omit, since I wish them well and want simply to give them some news which may help their business. You will know who you are, gentlemen, when I say that your product goes on the face like a thick coating of floor wax.

There is nothing wrong with this. I should say at once. After being agitated lightly by fingers, the wax-like liquid quickly turns white and strongly resembles an application of conventional shaving soap. What's more, it leads to a satisfactory shave.

To be fair, let me add that I am hardly your average consumer. In fact, it may be that my dislike for smelling like paste is a guarantee that you have the hottest product to hit the shaving market since the safety razor.

In many U.S. enterprises, my disapproval is eagerly sought as evidence that entrepreneurs have a success on their hands. When I pronounce a new TV series absolutely rotten it usually goes to the top of the ratings.

If I try a new fast food and decide it is tasteless junk, a year later it will be selling 50,000 orders a day at every one of 200,000 carry-out shops.

What I am trying to convey is a sense of my own shyness about mentioning this to you. I am fully aware that my not liking the smell of paste may very well mean that 50 million Americans are doing the same.

With this new brand, however, I noticed halfway through the shave that there was something reminiscent of the schoolhouse under my nose. This odor, which definitely came off the shaving cream, was quite pleasant and filled me with memories. Before I had finished up at the left sidebar I had fallen into a reverie of long-gone schooldays and might, like Marcel Proust in the power of the tea-soaked *madeleine*, have daydreamed seven volumes about the vanished past if someone hadn't angrily asked if I intended to stay in the bathroom all day.

Anyhow, in case you didn't intend to smell of paste I am writing to let you know it does. If the paste was deliberate, you'll be delighted to hear I disapprove, since it probably means you have hit the jackpot with the paste pot.

New York Times Service

On balance, gentlemen, I judge it not a bad shaving cream, though I place no great value on my opinion of shaving creams. As with beer, cigarettes and California jug wines, so with shaving cream in my book, I tend to find one as good as another and, in a blind tasting, would probably conclude they were all the same.

Unable to identify it myself, I went to the kitchen and placed my jaw against my wife's cheek. "What do I smell like?" I asked.

"Paste," she said. "You smell like those jars of paste they used to give me in kindergarten for cut-and-paste exercises."

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